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Preparation for Missile Destruction Described

PM141131 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 88 Second Edition p 3

[Unnamed own correspondent report: "Preparations for Elimination of Missiles"]

[Text] As the 10 April issue of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA has already reported, preparation to eliminate shorter-range missiles is under way northwest of Saryozek, Taldy-Kurgan Oblast. Another trial detonation of groups of combat and dummy OTR-22 (SS-12) and OTR-23 (SS-23) missiles for the purpose of improving the engineering techniques, training personnel, and checking the reliability of the safety measures envisaged has been carried out. Other organizational and economic tasks designed to ensure that all necessary conditions were created for the personnel involved in the work of eliminating the missiles and for representatives on the inspection side are also being tackled at the same time.

Colonel S. Petrenko, representative of the USSR Defense Ministry Main Rocket and Artillery Directorate, noted that the servicemen entrusted with discharging the important government assignments at the moment the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles comes into force, that is after ratification by the two sides, will be fully ready to execute the tasks envisaged under the treaty on eliminating that class of missiles, the destruction of which is planned in the Saryozek region.

Scientists of the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences and representatives of the mass media participated in this latest stage of the exercise.

Destruction 'Moral Event'

PM141239 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 88 p 1

[Correspondent A. Lapin "Reportage for the Issue": "Farewell to Arms!"]

[Text] Taldy-Kurgan Oblast—This event is destined to go down in history: The first combat missiles have been destroyed on a Soviet military test site not far from the settlement of Saryozek.

"The blast is scheduled for exactly 1000 hours! In half an hour all approaches to the field will be barred!" Colonel Petrenko, chief of the Shorter-Range Missile Elimination Control Center, told me.

A few minutes later, an orange bus, bucking from one pothole to the next, was already carrying journalists toward the field where a portentous event of our time was to take place.

We stopped. With the aid of binoculars we could clearly see the doomed missiles lying several kilometers from us in the middle of the valley, tied up in a square package in some ways resembling a log raft.

Prior to this, a team under the leadership of Captain G. Gimadiyev had been solemnly extracting the missile's brain—the control system instruments—from its steel innards. The men worked efficiently and harmoniously. Privates V. Yarmanov and B. Aytkenov, Komsomol members, fulfilled all operations with surgical precision. Soon the precious metals will be extracted at plants from these instruments.

Then we observed sappers—Sergeants O. Neybauer and K. Abdikov—preparing the "package" under the leadership of Major S. Belous, placing explosives around it.

The whole significance of the moment was that for the first time in world history the makers themselves were preparing to destroy their completed works. Destroy them and thereby take a step toward a different, better world. The missile blasts here, near Saryozek, were now to proclaim to the world the approach of a new era.

It must not be thought that decisions such as this come easily to governments and peoples. It is probably doubly difficult for those whose hands have previously held this formidable hardware. "But we military men are also aware that the next twist of the arms race could prove fatal," Colonel V.P. Leshchenko, deputy chief of the Shorter-Range Missile Elimination Control Center, said. "For even these few percentage points of the stockpiled lethal arsenal which we are to eliminate under the Soviet-U.S. treaty are capable of destroying the world."

No, the missiles' elimination is not just a technical act, it is also a moral event. By taking the first step toward our rival, we are showing the world our goodwill.

...The clock hand was moving steadily toward 10. The sun was getting really hot. Birds were singing. A helicopter suddenly appeared from behind the surrounding hills and landed on a pad. The top military chiefs had arrived.

Meanwhile, one signal rocket after another was soaring up. Finally the first explosion was heard, destroying six practice articles. We patiently awaited the second, main explosion.

A red tongue of flame suddenly rose up in the center of the field. And at once, without a pause, the rocket fuel detonated. Burning debris soared into the sky like fireworks. A second later a compression blast wave hit our faces. The roar of the explosion finally reached us with it. Fragments were still falling to earth, while a white and yellow powder cloud was already swelling over the field. It spread out and slowly drifted with the wind. Beside it the helicopter took off into the limpid blue sky. It carried scientists taking air samples for analysis.

Unfortunately, long before the first explosion, a wave of rumors had begun to rise in nearby oblasts and rayons of the republic that the missiles' elimination would harm nature. Speculating on people's natural anxiety, certain irresponsible persons had tried to sow panic....

We drove to the scene of the explosion. The smoldering residue of rocket fuel, scattered fragments, and the smell of powder smoke were there now. I picked up a piece of silvery warm metal from the hot ground singed by the blast. It was all that remained of the formidable weapon.

I looked around once again and saw the concentrated faces of our soldiers. Who knows, perhaps the years will pass and mankind will erect on this spot a memorial with the inscription: "Here, at the end of the 20th century, the first missiles were destroyed."

TRUD Describes Destruction

PM141231 Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Apr 88 p 3

[Correspondent V. Gafmatulin report: "Explosions for Peaceful Purposes in Saryozek"]

[Text] Saryozek, Taldy-Kurgan Oblast—Soviet Army servicemen and specialists are preparing for the destruction of some shorter-range missiles. They have rehearsed the technical aspects of the operation by destroying dozens of dummy and combat missiles.

Near the Saryozek workers settlement in the deserted region known as the "Land of the Yellow Hills," the OTR-23 and OTR-22 (SS-23 and SS-12) stand ready to be fired into oblivion. Just a short while ago we watched at the station as a group of officers and men unloaded a train containing the operational-tactical missiles removed by our country unilaterally from active service on the territory of the GDR and the CSSR. They had been delivered for storage and safekeeping. Now our servicemen were promptly removing various instruments from the missiles destined for experimental use.

For several days, the unusual exercises were observed by scientists, hydrometeorologists, journalists, and public representatives. There is good reason for that. Rumors had spread in the republic, fanned by foreign radio stations, about the serious environmental after-effects of these explosions for peaceful purposes.

Colonel V. Leshchenko, deputy chief of the USSR Ministry of Defense Shorter-Range Missiles Elimination Control Center, takes up the story:

"I would like to draw to your attention the fact that there are no warheads on any of the missile delivery vehicles. The launchers and transporters have not been brought here, but they will also be put to civilian use. As envisaged by the mutual accord, that will only take place in other parts of the country. The truck tractors, for example, will be shortened, their missile mountings will be removed, and they will be turned into conventional trucks and crane trucks."

While we were listening to the colonel, some other officers and men were cleaning the missiles and preparing the bulky many meters-long objects for transportation. Sappers took over at the destruction site. They were preparing two groups of missiles and packing them with dynamite charges.

Everything was ready. The order was given—and Captain V. Melnik closed the circuit of the "infernal machine." A huge ball of flame, smoke, and molten metal rose high into the sky. Hardly had the dust settled and the smoke dispersed than everyone rushed to the bottom of the rocky hollow. At the site of the explosion there was a shallow crater and yellow-gray smoke.

Hydrometeorologists immediately carried out an on-the-spot analysis of the air and soil. The results were announced: The hydrogen chloride content had increased but it was considerably below the maximum permissible concentration for human beings. They explained that it is several times lower than the daily level observed in downtown Alma-Ata. They calculated that after a week of daily explosions the amount of harmful substances discharged into the air will be less than that produced by a test of average capacity in 1 month. As we can see, the alarm felt by a section of Kazakhstan inhabitants is completely unwarranted. In addition, the terrain and the wind direction were taken into account when the site for the explosion was selected.

The experiment was successful. Everything is ready for the destruction of the missiles. All that is left is to await the ratification of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles by the United States and our country.

U.S. Aide Cited on Sochi Verification Forum

LD150857 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] A meeting of experts on verification issues is under way in the Black Sea resort of Sochi as part of the United Nationsl worldwide campaign for disarmament. Nikolay Borin reports:

[Borin] The United States Assistant Defense Secretary Robert Barker pointed out that the positions of the American and Soviet sides are similar in that they recognized the important role of verification in implementing any agreement in the field of disarmament. Notably, before this meeting in Sochi, there were some disagreements on the scope and means of verification between the Soviet Union and the United States, and while working on the INF Treaty the Soviet side proposed some very deep and comprehensive measures of control and not all of them were acceptable for the

Americans, but both sides managed to find a solution. For the first time ever, most stringent measures of control, which involved several types of onsite inspections, have been envisaged by that treaty and now, according to the Soviet Ambassador Oleg Grinevskiy, the United States representatives at Sochi for the first time have stated that they fully agree and share the Soviet approach and visions of the verification issue, and Robert Barker said that the conclusions and proposals to be made by experts in Sochi will be taken into account in discussing the verification issues at the summit meeting in Moscow. And he rightly added that each agreement should have its own specific verification measures. And nevertheless a success in verifying compliance with agreements on nuclear disarmament can have a positive impact on the process of conventional arms reductions and confidence building measures in Europe. Europe is a crossroads of numerous national interests, that is why to my mind the question raised at Sochi about setting up an international body within the United Nations framework which would impartially reflect the interests of all countries in matters of control is significant for Europe. And, together with the decision of the Warsaw Treaty countries to provide the other side with detailed data on conventional arms, this proposal to set up such a body could serve as a good starting point for working out drastic verification measures for an agreement on cutting conventional weapons in Europe.

Pentagon Strategists' War Scenario Deplored

PM141541 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Apr 88 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Pentagon's Ominous Plans"]

[Text] Washington, 7 Apr—The Pentagon strategists continue pinning their hopes on the possibility of winning a "protracted nuclear war." Citing a secret U.S. Defense Department document defining the basic "operational areas" for the use of nuclear waepons, THE WASHINGTON POST writes that the Pentagon is not simply planning on winning a nuclear conflict but is also intent on retaining its "offensive nuclear potential" while doing so.

"Although the Reagan administration is holding talks with the USSR on limiting strategic armaments, its top-secret plan to create and use strategic nuclear forces is based on the premise that victory is possible," the newspaper writes.

"U.S. nuclear potential must predominate in the conditions of a protracted nuclear war," THE WASHINGTON POST quotes from the secret Defense Department document. The document stresses that U.S. strategic nuclear forces are "to facilitate as far as possible an early conclusion of hostilities on terms favorable to the United States; to keep nuclear offensive potential in reserve in all conditions to ensure that the United States does not emerge from a nuclear war without nuclear weapons; and to prepare plans and forces to ensure that the United States is not without nuclear offensive forces while the enemies of the United States possess such forces."

The document points out that U.S. strategic forces must have the possibility of hitting "all potential targets without exception." As THE WASHINGTON POST makes clear, this means striking both hard targets on USSR territory—missile silos and other military installations—and soft targets such as cities and other population centers.

"Someone should tell the Pentagon that the concept of a 'victorious nuclear war' contains two mutually exclusive ideas," the newspaper comments on the document. "The Defense Department must finally come to terms with this and grasp that can be no such thing as a protracted nuclear conflict."

'Friendship-88' Exercises in GDR Described

LD140903 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Apr 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The "Friendship-88" exercise is taking place in the area of the towns of Havelberg, Potsdam, Miemegk, Magdeburg, and Gardelegen. Taking part are 20,000 servicemen of the National People's Army of the GDR, the Polish Army, and the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany.

The exercise is being held with a view to raising the level of training of personnel and improving the teamwork between the various branches of the army.

In line with the document of the Stockholm Conference, the GDR Government invited observers from all states which took part in the European Security and Cooperation Conference.

Reforms Strengthen Bloc Parties' Role

PM141527 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Apr 88 Second Edition p 3

[Answer to letter from reader L. Abramov by international commentator Captain Second Class V. Kocherov: "Urgent Changes"—first paragraph is reader's letter]

[Text] These days the newspapers are writing a lot about the processes of democratization which are taking place in various socialist countries: reforms, renewal, restructuring.... But virtually nothing is being written about the concomitant changes taking place in the communist and workers parties in those countries. What changes are occurring in those parties? Are they preserving their leading role? Particularly in countries such as Bulgaria, for example, which have adopted a course of developing self-management? It is common knowledge that Yugoslavia has experience of self-management. Yet it is no secret that Yugoslavia is facing certain difficulties. How do you reconcile the one with the other? L. Abramov, CPSU member.

Soviet people's interest in the socialist countries in general and in the processes of the transformations taking place there in particular is understandable. Until recently life in the socialist countries was presented to us in the form more of achievements than of problems. The level of our information about all aspects of life in those countries has now noticeably increased. We now know more about the complex and, at times, contradictory processes of renewal which are taking place in the fraternal communist and workers parties. I can hardly agree with your assertion, Lev Vasilyevich, that "virtually nothing is being written" on this score. On the contrary, things are being written because it is precisely those parties which are the initiators of the changes. Judging by your letter, you are well informed about current party concerns. Clearly, you have noticed that a period of major councils—party conferences and plenums—has begun in a number of fraternal communist and workers parties. A Hungarian party conference is due at the end of May, for instance. The MSZMP's organizations are completing the discussion of the MSZMP Central Committee's theses "On the party's leading role in our society and on the further development of the system of political institutions." Today sees the opening of a CPCZ Central Committee plenum, which will examine questions of the party's work in conditions of the restructuring of the economic mechanism and the development of socialist democracy. The LCY is completing the discussion of the theses of the LCY conference, which begins work soon. The BCP held its national party conference back in January.

The logical question is: What suddenly brought this about, and why all at the same time? The main reason is that many socialist countries entered or are entering the new and more dynamic stage of their development at virtually the same time. On any new path there are always quite a few problems. In the past those problems were resolved by the same means, whereas now new approaches are needed to implement the tasks of the reforms, renewal, and restructuring. As the BCP national party conference decision stressed, "the restructuring of society will be achieved to the extent that the party itself, its organizations, leading organs and cadres, and all its members restructure themselves."

In reply to your question, Lev Vasilyevich, I shall draw more on the experience of Bulgarian communists. First, because their party conference has already been held. The initial steps have also been taken in restructuring party work. In addition, the scope of my answer does not permit me to go into detail about all the countries involved.

So, is the party's leading role being preserved in the process of democratizing Bulgarian society? The national party conference gave an absolutely clear answer to that question. It stressed in particular that it is the party today which is the shock force of restructuring and the initiator, organizer, and leader of its actual implementation in all spheres of life. Yet the mechanism of leadership needs to be improved. Our Bulgarian comrades' opinion is that the party can no longer be a kind of "elite" in the hierarchy of state power. It must increasingly assert itself as the people's political vanguard. Thus the problem is to correctly choose the new means and methods of party leadership: to relinquish the functions of state and economic organs and to be able to resolve its strategic and tactical tasks via party organizations and communists in labor collectives.

All this also required the restructuring of the party apparatus. In Bulgaria, as you know, a new territorial division has been carried out. The former okrug and rayon party organizations have been replaced by oblast, Sofia city, and municipal party organizations. Thanks to this change the party apparatus has been reduced by two-thirds. Now the obkom has virtually the same number of staffers as the old okrug committee. But there are only 9 committees instead of 28. The Central Committee apparatus is also being streamlined.

The national party conference approved another innovation, the "party mandate system," which was proposed by the BCP Central Committee general secretary. It was determined that henceforth elected leading posts—from the BCP Central Committee general secretary to the secretary of a primary party organization—may be held for two terms or, in exceptional circumstances, three consecutive terms. By the way, the final decision on this issue will be taken by the routine 14th BCP Congress.

It should be added that the BCP Central Committee Secretariat recently approved the "Provisional statutes on creating the structure and apparatus of local party organs in accordance with the decisions of the BCP Central Committee July (1987) Plenum." This document notes, for example, that in lower party committees and primary party organizations the representatives of oblast and municipal committees may be party organizers. Their role is to help the lower link to implement the BCP's strategic course, provide political leadership of the socioeconomic and scientific and technical development of the territorial unit, and launch self-management in labor collectives and municipalities because the goal of the present restructuring in Bulgaria is to develop what they call there a highly developed self-managing state.

As for your comment on Yugoslavia, I think the following point should be made here. Yes, it is true, the SFRY has encountered a number of serious difficulties: a reduced pace of industrial development, inflation, and an increase in the state debt. Yet there was a time when Yugoslavia was marked by the high pace of its economic development. What is the problem here? Is it due to shortcomings in the self-management system? No, it is due to a violation of its principles. An analysis of the situation within the party shows that it has experienced a social, moral, and ideological stratification within its ranks. There is a weakening of the LCY's position as the vanguard of the working class and an undermining of communists' leading ideological and political role in society.... That is how the Yugoslav weekly KOMUNIST views the present situation in the country and the party.

The LCY has long been seeking a solution to this situation. The precise shape of that solution will be defined by the upcoming LCY conference. But even now quite a few concrete suggestions aimed at rectifying the existing situation have been expressed during the open debate in the press on the question of the role, content, and methods of the party organs' work. Such suggestions were also expressed from the rostrum of the recent LCY Central Committee plenum. In particular, there was a proposal to review such questions as relations between the party and its executive organs and the range of activity of leading organs and their composition and to prevent the fusion of party and state organs.

During the discussion on the LCY conference's draft theses, the speakers were particularly critical of the 1-year mandate for leaders. There were also other proposals, aimed at stepping up the monitoring of the implementation of LCY decisions.

Therefore, Lev Vasilyevich, Yugoslav communists are also concerned about the problem of enhancing the LCY's role and improving its activity. As we can see, the fraternal parties are working to resolve the urgent problems by their own characteristic means. This also applies to our party. Speaking in the SFRY Federal Assembly, M.S. Gorbachev named some of the problems which are going to be discussed at the CPSU's all-union conference this summer: how to better separate the functions of state and party organs, how to rid the soviets' work of formalism, how to improve the electoral system, and how to ensure the necessary preconditions—legal, economic, and moral-political—for the renewal of the socialist self-management of the peoples....

In conclusion, I should like to stress that this is a question not of weakening but of strengthening the leading role of communist and workers parties. They are the main driving force behind the reforms, renewal, and restructuring.

Gorbachev Receives U.S., British Publishers

LD151053 Moscow TASS in English 1048 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev received the publishers of his book "Perestroyka: New Thinking for Our Country and the World"—Simon Michael Bessie, senior vice president of the American Harper and Row publishing firm, and Cornelia Bessie, Ian Chapman, executive director of the British Collins publishers and of the Harper and Row, and Marjory Chapman—in his office today.

They presented the American- and British-published gift copies of the book to the author. A warm conversation ensued. It dealt with the main idea and aims of the book and with why it has become so widely read and so popular around the world.

Soviets Support UN Resolution on PLO Mission

LD142343 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—"The Soviet Union together with the vast majority of U.N. member nations has come out in support of the 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly's resolution urging U.S. authorities to refrain from any actions hampering the fulfilment of the official functions by the mission of the PLO permanent observer at the U.N. in New York," Vsevolod Oleandrov, chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Directorate of International Organizations, said in an interview with a TASS diplomatic correspondent today.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed agreement with the position of a group of lawyers in New York considering a suit against U.S. authorities, according to which the U.S. decision to close the mission of the PLO permanent observer to the United Nations is a demarche not only against the Palestine Liberation Organization, but also against the world community as a whole.

"The issue of the right of the PLO mission to stay and act in New York," Oleandrov continued, "is for the United Nations, just as for all of its members, a matter of abidance by the norms of international law."

"The conflict of the United States with the Palestine Liberation Organization should be resolved without delay in keeping with the U.N. Headquarters agreement. The mission of the PLO observer should be able to perform its functions at the U.N. in New York unimpededly," the Soviet Foreign Ministry official said.

Gromyko Receives UN Association Leader Strong

PM141347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation in Kremlin"]

[Text] A.A. Gromyko on 5 April received Maurice Strong, president of the World Federation of UN Associations, who was in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet UN Association. As a major Canadian businessman, he is well known in UN circles, since for over 40 years he has frequently occupied various posts in its organs, including working as UN deputy secretary general.

M. Strong talked about his initiative, which has gradually been implemented and consists of creating a commission with the name "The UN Role in Ensuring Global Security" under the aegis of the World Federation of UN Associations. Moreover, he stressed his great interest in the ideas of an all-embracing system of international security and an increased UN role set out, in particular, in M.S. Gorbachev's article "Reality and Guarantees of a Secure World," published in PRAVDA on 17 September 1987.

This document, A.A. Gromyko said, represents the essence of the new political thinking. In the article the concept of an all-embracing system of international security, submitted to the United Nations as a joint initiative by the group of socialist countries, is thoroughly developed and enriched.

A.A. Gromyko assured his interlocutor that the Soviet public will assist in the activity of the World Federation of UN Associations. Mankind, he continued, is passing through an important stage in its development. It is civilization's survival that is now at stake. This is not propaganda but a vital truth. Representatives of science and cultural figures united in the most diverse public organizations understand this. The question is heard with ever increasing frequency: Are people intelligent enough to come out of this situation with dignity?

As far as Soviet people are concerned, we believe that they are intelligent enough. There is only one way out of the situation which has been created—everything must be done to save the world from nuclear catastrophe.

This is why you can be sure that you will constantly feel the support of the Soviet side in your activity. Moreover, this applies both to official policy and to our public organizations involved in international affairs.

The situation in the world is changing largely because of the signing of the historic Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. This significant event should be utilized to further develop the entire disarmament process. In our view, this is one of the tasks of the World Federation of UN Associations. In this respect, of course, it is important to involve prominent and prestigious representatives of the public in activity for the good of disarmament and peace.

What the federation of which M. Strong is president is doing now is undoubtedly assisting in improving international relations. The main concern of the World

Federation of UN Associations is to increase the UN role and prestige in the world and to show ways to increase efficiency in its work. This is precisely what the world's peoples expect of it.

A.A. Gromyko wished the World Federation of UN Associations and the future commission on "The UN Role in Ensuring Global Security" success in its activity for the good of peace and disarmament.

G.A. Arbatov, chairman of the Soviet UN Association, took part in the conversation.

Komplektov Addresses Geneva ECE Session

LD132334 Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 13 Apr 88

["Statement by Head of USSR Delegation at ECE Session"—TASS headline]

[Text] Geneva April 13 TASS—Problems pertaining to broadening international cooperation in various fields of economic activity, development of science and technology and environmental protection are under discussion at the current 43rd session of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe [ECE].

Addressing the session, Viktor Komplektov, the head of the Soviet delegation, USSR deputy foreign minister, stressed that it is being held at a crucial period of the development and deepening of political dialogue, of joint search for the resolution of the topical problems of the present, when the fundamentals of new interstate relations are being built. Together with the other socialist states, the Soivet Union favours a broad package of measures for a real build-up of confidence in Europe, for building, as Mikhail Gorbachev put it, a "common European home".

Our country is convinced that the general political background creates favourable prerequisites for giving a fresh (?impetus to) the development of economic and scientific-technical ties, ecological cooperation between the ECE member-countries.

The delegates to the session showed special interest in the new opportunities created by perestroyka currently under way in the Soviet Union both for further developing the traditional relations and firmly asserting new forms of foreign economic relations between the USSR and the other ECE member countries. We, the head of the Soviet delegation noted, view perestroyka not only as applied to the far-reaching processes taking place in the political, social and economic fields of life in our country, we do not lose sight either of its international aspects.

The realities of the present-day world urgently necessitate a mutual change in approaches to cooperation, to understanding the fact that the progress of all is necessarily the progress of each taken separately. The material and cultural values, the achievements of science and technology, which have been accumulated, are opening up new vistas for overcoming disunity, for secure development with common interests.

Viktor Komplektov voiced hope that the current ECE session will open up a new stage in its activities and will be marked by new, fresh approaches and manifestations of goodwill in the name of ensuring specific results in developing and enriching the practices of cooperation between the ECE member-countries.

IPU Delegate Criticizes U.S. Policy on Panama

LD140854 Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Guatemala April 13 TASS—TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin reports:

Delegates to the 79th conference of the Interparliamentary Union underway here started discussing an additional item on the agenda about the prospects of achieving peace, democracy, economic and social development in Central America.

They positively assessed the striving of Central American countries to decide their regional political, social and economic problems through talks and dialogue. Representatives of Colombia, Zimbabwe, Cuba, Ecuador and other countries condemned the United States interference in the internal affairs of Central America and Panama. "The road to peace in this region is through respect for the sovereignty of Central American countries," head of the Colombian delegation, Senator Edmundo Lopez Gomez said. "The United States economic blackmail and pressure on Panama pose a direct threat to the sovereignty of the Panamanian people. We urge the United States to stop pressure on Panama and respect the lawful right of its people to the Panama Canal", the senator said.

"The Soviet Union attaches much importance to solving conflicts in various areas", said the head of the delegation of Soviet parliamentarians, Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR Aleksey Yeliseyev. "There is no universal recipe for the settlement of regional conflicts, but the idea of national reconciliation must be the fundamental one, also as regards achievement of peace in Central America. The Soviet Union is prepared to promote the creation of favourable conditions for political settlement in Central America by Latin Americans themselves without outside interference on the basis of the Guatemalan arrangements. During the Washington summit, Mikhail Gorbachev proposed that the United States and the Soviet Union should assume the obligation to sharply reduce arms deliveries to Central America. This would be a real contribution to the support of the Guatemalan process. Deplorably, we have not yet met with a positive response on the U.S. side to this proposal", the head of the Soviet delegation said.

"It is particularly important now not to allow the disruption of the nascent process of political settlement in Central America, to bar the road to those who continue declaring for power methods of the solution of the problems of the region, flouting generally-recognised norms of international law. The rallying of all the forces that are sincerely interested in the solution of the Central American conflict by peaceful political means assumes great importance and parliamentarians can and must play an important role in this", Aleksey Yeliseyev said.

International Investment Bank Council Meets

LD142308 Moscow TASS in English 2211 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Leningrad April 14 TASS—The Council of the International Investment Bank held its 45th meeting in Leningrad on April 12-13.

The meeting was attended by delegations of the bank member countries: the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the German Democratic Republic, Cuba, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. It was also attended by representatives of the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the International Bank for Economic Cooperation and also a representative of the Federal Secretariat for Finances of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, who attends the meeting in accordance with the agreement between the International Investment Bank and the Yugoslav Government, and, as observers, representatives of the National Bank of Angola, Da Afghanistan Banka [as received], the State Bank of India, the Bank of Yemen, the State Bank of Laos, the Bank of Mozambique, the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, the Nordic Investment Bank, the Bank of Finland.

The council's meeting was chaired by Hector Rodrigues Llompart, the head of the delegation of the Republic of Cuba, president of the National Bank of Cuba.

The Council of the International Investment Bank considered the board's information on the course of implementation of the measures for credit assistance to implementation of the comprehensive program of scientific-technological advancement of the CMEA member countries up to the year 2000 and the bank's participation in the reconstruction of the mechanism of economic cooperation, linked with compliance with the decisions of the 43rd (extraordinary) meeting of the session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, endorsed the report on activities of the International Investment Bank for 1987 and the bank's balance as of January 1, 1988, took decisions on distribution of profits for 1987 and on crediting new projects. The council also discussed and took decisions on other questions of the bank's activities.

The council's meeting was held in an atmosphere of complete mutual understanding and business cooperation.

Seminar Held on Joint Enterprise Prospects

LD150835 Moscow TASS in English 2113 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—A broad range of theoretical and practical matters involved in establishing joint enterprises has been considered at a seminar which ended here today.

The seminar was attended by scientists, managers of joint enterprises, representatives of Soviet organizations and firms of the United States, Britain, other West European countries and also experts of international economic organisations.

A frank exchange of opinions was held on legal measures of regulating activities of joint enterprises, supplies of raw materials and marketing of finished products, ways of solving financial and other problems. As in any other commercial undertaking, opinions have not always coincided, but all the participants believed that there were good prospects of development of this form of the USSR's cooperation with foreign partners.

At a press conference held upon the completion of the seminar it was reported that over three dozen joint enterprises had been established by now in the USSR. They are engaged in different activities—from the manufacture of sophisticated equipment and provision of services in computerization to the construction of sport facilities and organisation of restaurants.

Soviet and foreign partners now more readily undertake such cooperation now that there is already certain experience of operation of joint enterprises. This is shown by the fact that over a third of all joint enterprises in the USSR were instituted over the past three months and a half of the current year. Another 50 projects are in the final elaboration stage. Firms of the FRG, Finland, Italy and the USA are displaying interest in joint ventures.

United States & Canada

Reagan Speech to Editors Ignores 'Major Issues'

LD141627 Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Washington April 14 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

President Reagan's remarks made at an annual conference of the American Society of Newspaper Editors here on Wednesday were quite out of tune with the times.

The U.S. President approached all the international issues touched upon in his remarks from the viewpoint that everything should proceed everywhere in a way which is regarded appropriate by the White House. The most surprising thing is that at a time when people around the world and in the United States closely follow the course of the discussion of the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty in the U.S. Congress and in the USSR Supreme Soviet, the talks between the two powers on a radical reduction in strategic arms, and the preparations for a new Soviet-American summit meeting, the head of the U.S. Administration considered it possible to pass all these major issues over in silence.

Instead he found time and opportunity to 'advise' Soviet people on how they should handle matters in the field of perestroyka and glasnost, and what they should read (to him, it seems only natural that the first thing they should read is the American press which, it turns out, is the 'guardian of the hopes of people all over the world', and in general how they should live subsequently. "We must press the Soviets to do better", he stated.

The President painted a picture according to which the United States, or to be more exact, the U.S. Administration headed by him, is the only campaigner for democracy throughout the world. "We are engaged in a great struggle", he said, for example, "to determine if this hemisphere will be free, whether millions will be ruled by the sword, or will rule themselves with the pen".

Reagan apparently regarded precisely as the form of such 'rule with the pen' the ongoing concentration of a striking fist of U.S. Armed Forces in the Panama Canal Zone or the presence of U.S. major military bases in Honduras, as well as his yet another demand for a continuation of military aid to the anti-Nicaraguan contras.

In the same vein Reagan spoke about the need to support 'freedom fighters of Afghanistan'. On the whole, he greeted the accords reached in Geneva on settling the Afghanistan situation. But at the same time he stated the U.S. resolve to go on supplying weapons to the Afghan anti-government groups.

Much space in Reagan's remarks, obviously with an eye to the current presidential candidate nomination campaign in the USA on the eve of the November elections, was devoted to the Republican administration's 'progress' in the field of domestic policy, although pronouncements about 'progress' are by no means confirmed by actuality.

Drug addiction and drug-related crimes are one of America's acutest domestic problems. This is a topic which is being discussed literally every hour in the press, on television, and by members of the general public. In recent days alone, television showed a series of documentary films describing the dominance of armed-to-the-teeth gangs of drug traffickers in large cities and small towns of the United States, and the terrible lot of those who fall into the drug pit—and there are millions of drug abuse victims.

This problem gives rise to an exceptionally profound concern among the U.S. population who insistently demand a sharp increase in appropriations to fight the scourge. A recent public opinion poll showed that more than a half of U.S. people regard the drug problem as being the country's acutest one, for the 'white death' puts in jeopardy the life and wellbeing of a whole generation of Americans already now.

In response to the concern, Reagan only said that 'more than ever before' had been done in the war on drugs, and that 'the number of drug users has levelled off, and may be dropping', and so on and so forth.

In answer to the question about his assessment of the status of race relations in the country in connection with the 20th anniversary of the Kerner Commission report (a survey carried out in 1988 in connection with the anniversary has shown that since then the position of national minorities has deteriorated rather than improve—note by TASS correspondent), Reagan said, in particular: "I have been portrayed so often as in some way a racist and prejudiced with regard to racial matters. And it's hard for me to take, because I grew up in a family in which that was considered the greatest sin, prejudice and discrimination. And all my life, back when I was a sports announcer and broadcasting major league baseball, I was one of the little handful across the country that continued to editorialise for the breaking of the ban and the allowing of blacks into organised baseball. And it's been carried on through my life".

Speech's 'Troglodyte Philosophy'

PM151235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 88 Second Edition p 7

[PRAVDA political observer Gennadiy Vasilyev article: "'Cold War' Stereotypes Once Again"]

[Text] It has become a banal rule that on the eve of important Soviet-U.S. meetings, people in Washington begin a peculiar kind of propaganda "softening up" operation on the principle of putting a fly in the ointment. This is, to put it bluntly, a strange unproductive exercise. Especially if the country's supreme political figure, on whose shoulders lies the responsibility for ensuring that the Soviet-U.S. dialogue, which is of importance for the whole world, continues successfully and constructively, is repeatedly involved in it.

President Reagan has just spoken at the annual convention of the U.S. Society of Newspaper Editors. "A colossal struggle is under way in the world today," he said. "I have often described it as a struggle between freedom and totalitarianism, but it can also be described as the struggle between the pen and the sword, between our country's First Amendment and Article 6 of the Soviet Constitution, which puts the party above the country." Let us leave on the President's conscience (or that of his speechwriters) the comparison of the U.S. First Amendment (on freedom of speech) with the article of the USSR's Constitution which proclaims that the CPSU is the leading and guiding force in Soviet society. Let us note for ourselves: The old hackneyed argument that true freedom and democracy are inherent in a system based on private property—to be even more specific, in the United States of America—has once again emerged into the light of day. Everything that is not as it is in America is the work of the devil. Is this not a tribute to imperial thinking, this stubborn refusal to see the world in all its multicolored diversity? This kind of approach had the musty smell of ideological dogmatism before, too. It is especially unacceptable now, when the ideas of the new political thinking are being adopted and constructive dialogue, of tremendous importance for the fate of the world, is developing in Soviet-U.S. relations.

The President admits that the policy of glasnost (he puts this word in quotemarks) being implemented in the Soviet Union is seen in the West as "new freedom of speech, a new current of information and ideas, and a response to the demands of a changing world." But this, evidently, does not suit him. He calls us "a blinkered society" and calls for the "bandages to be removed from the people's eyes to enable them to see the world with all its wonders as if through a kaleidoscope."

Can I ask—whose eyes are blinkered? Are the President's advisers (those who put Russian proverbs in his speeches) familiar with our newspapers, with the articles in literary and sociopolitical journals, and with all the turbulent hubbub in our public life? No one in the world speaks as bluntly and honestly about our problems as we do ourselves. The process of profound self-knowledge of Soviet society is revealing people's tremendous energy and initiative and is giving rise to true socialist pluralism of opinions. There is an ardent, committed, and constructive dispute under way about the most important things—our past and present and how to improve our society and realize all its potential. This profound debate is much more serious than the sensationalist discussions, which don't essentially touch upon the fundamentals, which are often plastered over Western newspapers.

It has become the rule for Washington figures to give us impudent advice which verges on interference in our internal affairs. But this habitual tone of theirs, which is, incidentally, even unacceptable in conversations with the representatives of Indian reservations, is not at all suitable in relations between the two great powers. Instead of giving other people tips they would do better to tackle their own problems, of which there are a great many in America—flagrant violations of human rights, widespread racism, tenacious relics of McCarthyism, and lack of social welfare provisioning for millions of Americans?

A turn for the better has taken place in USSR-U.S.relations. Soviet-U.S. dialogue is picking up dynamism. The major problems of the day are its subject matter. It is distinguished by new approaches and the gradual overcoming of stereotypes. Again the President uses the hackneyed cliches of the worst times of the "cold war."

Two voices spoke in the world almost simultaneously. M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, speaking in Moscow on the occasion of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council conference, called for ways to be found to ensure the survival of the human race and a calmer and more normal life for mankind. "We are all," he said, "constantly faced with the question: What can each one of us do specifically to shape stable mutually beneficial demilitarized USSR-U.S. relations—not for others, but for ourselves, our children and grandchildren?. Having answered this question, we will get down to business."

Quite a different call came from Washington—a speech trying to enshrine in Americans' minds the image of the Soviet Union as the "enemy," a speech poisoning the atmosphere of Soviet-U.S. relations.

The first speech is imbued with concern for peace and Soviet-U.S. relations and the future of all mankind.

The second smacks of a kind of troglodyte philosophy and urges the path of confrontation. The entire spirit of Reagan's speech is not in line with the demands of the day or with the sentiments of the American people. In that case whom does the President represent? Who needs all this?

Reagan's 'Genuflections to Right' Lambasted

LD141539 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1305 GMT 14 Apr 88

["New Times and Old Dogmas"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Apr (TASS)—Political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

If there were a barometer in the world which registered the political climate of the planet, then we could see for ourselves that its arrow is gradually moving away from the point of "foggy." The process of the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on intermediate-and shorter-range missiles is being completed. Preparation is underway for a new and even more important step in the matter of curbing the nuclear genie—the 50-percent reduction in strategic nuclear armaments. New prospects are opening up in the matter of developing trade and economic ties between the USSR and the United States. A package of agreements on settling the Afghan problem has been signed in Geneva. All this taken together strengthens people's faith in a better future.

But there is one thing which is worthy of our attention: The closer the new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, the more active and broader the public support for the process of improving Soviet-U.S. relations, the more frequently come speeches from Washington which, to put it mildly, strike a discordant note on the developing situation.

Let us, indeed, turn the pages of the President's recent speeches. On the eve of the Brussels meeting of the heads of state and governments of the NATO countries, R. Reagan, speaking on "Worldnet," USIA's television network, painted a generally positive picture of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. But, having given a positive appraisal of this treaty, he then made a sharp zigzag and started scaring his audience about the possibility...of a "sudden attack" by the troops of the Warsaw Treaty countries on Western Europe, extolling SDI, and repeating the "canard" that the Soviets had spent $200 billion on creating a strategic defense in the past decade.

If you go further, you will get more of this sort of thing. Having played the worn out record about the nonexistent "Soviet threat," the President, already in another speech delivered in Las Vegas, proclaimed himself champion of destroying an "unseen wall," separating the United States and the USSR—"a wall that stands in the way of a free flow of information and ideas." You read this speech and you marvel: What made these concoctions about a "mythical" wall necessary? Why does the White House stubbornly refuse to notice that the USSR is not only in words, but also in deeds, in favor of an all-round widening of the exchange of information and ideas, including the Americans here as well?

And one gets altogether embarrassed for the U.S. President when one reads his speech, delivered in Washington on Wednesday, at a conference of the U.S. association of newspaper editors. You find here, as it were, the full compliment of the old and, it would seem, long since discarded cliches: fabrications about "human rights violations" allegedly taking place in our country and reflections on the USSR "not being a free society," and even an appeal "to put pressure on the Soviets."

A question cannot but arise: Was not this specifically Washingtonian jargon, reeking of mothballs, about "Soviet vassals," "prisoners of conscience," dragged out in error from 5-year-old archives dating back to the time when some in Washington, zealously painting the "enemy's picture," exercised themselves in the rhetoric on the subject of the "evil empire"?!

Evidence that Larry Speakes, former deputy White House press secretary, used to concoct utterances which he would then ascribe to R. Reagan has recently been put at the disposal of the paper WASHINGTON POST. I allow for the fact that those who have replaced Speakes and prepare presidential speeches now find it beyond their power to renounce phraseology which clearly runs counter to the realities. However, the fact remains: As distinct from other presidental "utterances", compiled by Speakes, the utterances mentioned above have indeed been uttered by the President, no matter who the author is. It is difficult to see all this other than as kowtowing to obsolete stereotypes, as an attenpt to play up to those ultraright circles which, coming out against stabilization and improvement in the Soviet-U.S. relations, do not let an occasion go by to charge the administration with almost a "retreat in the face of the Reds" at a time when the election campaigning is getting underway in the United States.

What do these Presidential "genuflections to the right" serve, what is their purpose? At any rate, it is not the goal of creating an atmosphere which would facilitate a fruitful and constructive dialogue in the name of creating a safer world, in which the United States is naturally as interested as the USSR.

ASTEC Conference Activities Continue

Kamentsev Addresses Group

LD140911 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Apr 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report by Correspondent A. Sturua as identified by caption]

[Text] A plenary session of ASTEC [American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council] meeting took place in Moscow today.

[Sturua] The council was set up in 1973 and brings together the business circles of the two countries. ASTEC is a public organization, to which at the present time more than 300 U.S. banks, corporations, and chambers of commerce and associations of industrialists of the United States and a few individual states belong, as well as over 135 Soviet ministries, departments, organizations, and enterprises.

Speaking at the plenary session Comrade Kamentsev, USSR deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, said:

[Kamentsev] There has been trade and economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and the United States for many decades now, but in recent years the trade turnover between our countries has been constantly decreasing. Thus, whereas in 1984 it amounted to more than $5 billion, in 1987 it only just stretched to about $2 billion. The share of the United States, a major trading power, in the Soviet Union's foreign trade amounts at present to about 1 percent, while the Soviet Union's share in the U.S. trade turnover is less than 0.5 percent. This, of course, is completely out of correspondence with the levels of the two countries' economies. Thus the foreign-economic dependence of the Soviet Union and the United States is so low that each side could calmly do without the other's trade. However, we think that this would not be in the interests of the United States and the Soviet Union. In the present-day world, we simply cannot and have not the right to neglect such a stabilizer of relations as trade and economic and scientific-technical links.

[Sturua] A U.S. delegation led by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Verity is taking part in the ASTEC meeting. Noting that the meeting is taking place at an historic moment when both sides are seeking ways to draw closer together and on the eve of a fresh Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, William Verity emphasized that radical improvements in trade depend on an improvement of other aspects of the relations between our countires. He also read out a greetings message from President Reagan, which say that the U.S. Government supports an expansion of mutually beneficial trade and economic links with the Soviet Union. President Reagan wished the members of ASTEC sucess in their activities.

The program for the meeting also includes the sessions of six functional committees and open [otkrytyy] discussions. ASTEC will conclude its work on 14 April.

Gorbachev Receives Verity

LD141953 Moscow TASS in English 1916 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—During the reception for the participants in the annual meeting of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council on the night of April 13, Mikhail Gorbachev had a one-to-one conversation with U.S. Secretary of Commerce William Verity.

In their brief conversation they discussed topical issues of world economy, possibilities for improving Soviet-American economic ties, outstanding problems and obstacles.

Dobrynin Meets Andreas

LD150543 Moscow TASS in English 1827 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—CPSU CC Secretary Anatoliy Dobrynin met with Dwayne Andreas, a prominent representative of the U.S. business community, cochairman of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council (ASTEC), who took part in the eleventh annual meeting of the council.

In a constructive conversation they discussed issues pertaining to a further development of diverse Soviet-American cooperation, including that in the trade and economic sphere, as well as ASTEC's growing role in the process.

The two expressed the hope that the upcoming meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan in Moscow will provide a fresh impetus to improved Soviet-American relations.

Kamentsev Receives Businessmen

LD150656 Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received today senior executives of a number of U.S. companies incorporated in the American trade consortium.

They discussed questions connected with the development of bilateral trade and economic relations, including on the basis of new forms of cooperation. In this connection both sides emphasized the importance of a document signed on April 13 on the establishment of business relations between the Soviet foreign economic consortium and the American trade consortium.

They discussed practical questions connected with a further development of joint enterprises on the basis of Soviet production amalgamations and American firms.

Participants Speak on Issues

LD141259 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—Stable scientific, technological and economic relations are a must for stabilising Soviet-U.S. relations. Improved Soviet-U.S. relations can become a constructive factor in the entire international process, concluded participants in the open discussion "new thinking in international affairs is the basis to strengthen trust and develop trade, economic, scientific and technological relations between the USSR and USA," held at the ASTEC's 11th annual meeting here.

Speaking on the pre-requisitives for a new approach to solving complex problems in relationships between the two countries, Marshall Shulman, of the Harriman Institute, noted that the signing of the agreement on elimination of two classes of missiles was evidence that the USA had somewhat abandoned its conservative positions. One can hope that that would find its reflection in the approach to trade and economic cooperation with the USSR.

Prominent Soviet economist Academician Pavel Bunich stressed a great striving of Soviet enterprises and organisations, with access to the world market in conditions of the reform, to business cooperation with foreign firms, including American ones.

Is there a need to speed up the development of Soviet-U.S. cooperation, especially its new forms? There were two kinds of replies to this question at the discussion.

The meeting will help give certain impulse to business cooperation, but people should not expect too much if they do not want to feel disappointed later, Marshall Shulman held.

"Excessive caution in such a matter can doom the development of our cooperation to too slow rates," said Director of the Institute of U.S.A. and Canada Georgiy Arbatov.

Verity Addresses Kremlin Reception

PM141538 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 88 Second Edition pp 1-2

[TASS report: "On the Occasion of the ASTEC Meeting"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted listing those present at Kremlin reception held in connection with the current American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council session and report on speech delivered by Gorbachev at the event] In a reply address, W. Verity expressed thanks for the warm reception and kind hospitality offered to the large delegation of Americans representing the U.S. Government and business circles. This is, the secretary said, the biggest group in the history of these meetings.

The session of the joint commission on trade questions and of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council is taking place, W. Verity stressed, during an important period for the two countries' relations. During the Soviet-American summit meetings a wide range of questions were discussed, including trade. As a result, we understand each other better and are forming bonds of mutual friendship. I know President R. Reagan awaits with interest further progress along this path in Moscow next month.

Noting the significance of peaceful trade ties between the United States and the USSR, W. Verity said that they cannot be measured only in dollars or rubles. Peaceful trade makes it possible to establish contacts promoting the creation of an atmosphere of trust and respect and to lay the foundations for constructive, stable mutual relations.

W. Verity noted that the American side takes seriously the provision of the Soviet-American joint statement at summit level signed in Washington on the setting up of a joint Soviet-American commission on trade questions. He expressed confidence that the commission will improve the ability of firms and enterprises on both sides to conclude specific agreements. We are approaching this task realistically, the secretary noted, so as to be able step by step, within the framework of the two governments' overall policy, to lay firm foundations for taking further steps in future. We are creating a climate which will promote the further improvement of Soviet-American relations in general. The U.S. secretary of commerce noted that trade and industrial circles take a very positive view of the bold steps in the Soviet Union to change the approach to questions of economic management, in particular steps aimed at setting up joint enterprises and establishing direct contacts with consumers, which reduces the time spent on talks.

Relations created on the basis of such meetings, W. Verity said in conclusion, promise much from the viewpoint of success in forming the climate of trust that is so important for lasting, peaceful relations.

D. Andreas, U.S. cochairman of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, expressed gratitude for the hospitality given to the 500 representatives of American business circles and for the freelings of friendship displayed toward the American and Soviet business society.

I well remember, D. Andreas said, how during World War II we Americans sat by our radios listening to what was happening at Stalingrad, Moscow, and Leningrad. We shared your grief, your tears. I remember how your brave soldiers, your great people conquered fascism. The Soviet Union was our ally. We will always be grateful to you and to the great Russian people.

A new Soviet-American summit meeting will soon take place, D. Andreas went on. And now, as the disarmament program progresses step by step, we can pool our efforts and prevent the proliferation of nuclear forces throughout the world, we can once again, together, save the world. And I predict that then detente will bear fruit in trade too.

D. Andreas expressed confidence that the development of trade and economic ties between the United States and the Soviet Union will make it possible to save hundreds of billions of dollars that are now spent on arms and channel the resources thus freed into better uses, for the resolution of the problems facing mankind.

The speeches were heard with great attention and greeted with applause. The reception took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Verity Press Conference

LD141307 Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—U.S. Secretary of Commerce William Verity told a press conference here today that the work of the U.S.S.R.-U.S. Commercial Commission had been useful and brought the expected results. The press conference was devoted to the results of the recent session of the commission.

During the visit to Moscow, the American delegation received a fair insight into the perestroyka drive, currently underway in the Soviet Union. The secretary said that he was impressed by the speech made by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev at a reception in the Kremlin in honour of ASTEC participants. The American businessmen saw for themselves that the Soviet leadership was paying great attention to developing trade and economic relations with the USA as an important element of bilateral relations, he said.

Speaking on the positions of the USA on the question of granting the Soviet Union most favoured nation status, Verity said it had remained unchanged. The USA was also opposed to the USSR's participation in the general Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). As for U.S. export controls, they need not hamper the development of trade with the USSR in civilian, nonstrategic goods.

Andreas, Malkevich Speak

LD150532 Moscow TASS in English 1706 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow March 29 TASS—I was greatly impressed by the meeting with the CPSU CC General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev in the Kremlin. His statement contains specific proposals on solving the economic problems of the world. This was said by Dwayne Andreas, ASTEC [American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council] cochairman, who spoke here today at the final press conference of the eleventh annual meeting of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council.

Vladislav Malkevich, his counterpart on the Soviet side, pointed out that ASTEC's Moscow meeting was the most representative one in the entire fifteen-year history of the organization. This objectively reflects positive trends in the overall set of the Soviet-American relations, since the political relations between the two countries exert an immmense influence on the state of trade links between them. On the other hand, development of business contacts contributes to an improved political atmosphere and to the establishment of a climate of confidence between the USSR and the USA. Such an influential organ of the business communities as ASTEC is called upon to play a major role in this process.

Even at the present time, in the conditions of the existing restrictions on the development of mutual trade, which are imposed not by the Soviet Union, cooperation is still possible in such fields as the agroindustrial complex, construction energy, and the services sector, Vladislav Malkevich said. In this connection he praised the establishment of the Soviet-American consortium as a completely new form of international business ties.

Resolution Supports Better Ties

LD150528 Moscow TASS in English 1346 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—Members of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council [ASTEC] emphatically support the process of improvement of the Soviet-American relations started recently. This is stated in a resolution of the 11th annual meeting of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council adopted at its concluding sitting.

Members of the council expressed high appreciation of the results of the Soviet-American summit in Washington and hope that the coming summit in Moscow would give an additional impetus to the process of development of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The resolution pointed out that signs of the activization of trade relations between the two countries had become evident. The number of commerical deals is growing. The first joint ventures have been launched, plans of large-scale cooperation are being discussed. However, this process is hampered by problems that remain to be resolved. Members of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council went on record in favour of their solution on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and non-discrimination.

Members of the council urged Soviet and American Governments to encourage the activities of business circles of both countries and to take advantage of all the opportunities for organizing mutually acceptable and mutually advantageous cooperation projects.

Verity Departing Interview

LD150547 Moscow TASS in English 2137 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—U.S. Commerce Secretary C. William Verity has described as very important the results of the Soviet-American Commission on trade. He gave an interview to a TASS correspondent before leaving Moscow by air today.

"The trade issues will be on the agenda of the forthcoming Moscow summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. The meeting adopted the agreed proposals. As a result of that we have prepared a report for the inclusion in the agenda. I feel confident that this will be in the agenda for the summit".

Trade between the two countries is one of the links between the USSR and USA. "Last night I spoke with General Secretary Gorbachev. We also discussed prospects for cooperation between the two countries in scientific exchanges, in environmental matters and fisheries," said William Verity.

Joint ventures, being established in the USSR, are paid profound attention to, and this is natural, said the U.S. commerce secretary. They make it possible to "discover" Soviet economy, to make it part of the world economic system, to establish firm partnership relations with contractors abroad. All this signifies a transition to more durable and firm cooperation, and will lead to broader trade, including with the United States, said William Verity.

Wallis Views 10th Commercial Session, Trade

LD150523 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—"Perestroyka and glasnost have made progress in all the issues between our two countries," said Allen Wallis, U.S. under secretary for economic affairs, here at the 10th session of the joint United States-Soviet Commercial Commission.

"Many problems are still remaining, but we are moving," Wallis said in a TASS interview. As for prospects for cooperation, "they have to be worked out very carefully, step by step. But I think progress is occuring on all fronts."

The under secretary said yesterday's speech by Mikhail Gorbachev at a Kremlin reception for U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council members was "very interesting, comprehensive and obviously important."

Asked about future cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union in solving regional problems, following the signing of agreements concerning Afghanistan, the under secretary said, "I hope very much that we will be able to extend it to other regions."

Kachanov: Trade Obstacles Remain

LD141255 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—Soviet First Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Aleksandr Kachanov described the discussion of the problems of Soviet-U.S. trade as businesslike and constructive. Aleksandr Kachanov was heading a Soviet delegation at the 10th session of the U.S.S.R.-U.S. Commercial Commission, which ended in Moscow today.

Both sides strove to create more favourable conditions for the business circles of the two countries, Kachanov told TASS. He said, in particular, that an agreement was reached to extend the long-term agreement on economic, industrial and technological cooperation to include new forms of economic relations. A decision was also taken to set up working groups on cooperation in oil and gas equipment, light and some other industries. They will help promote direct contacts between the Soviet industry and American firms.

The results of the session can mark a beginning of significant improvement in commercial relations between the USSR and USA, but greater efforts are yet to be made. The main obstacles for mutually advantageous trade and economic cooperation remain and, unfortunately, the position of the American side on this issue had not undergone any changes. "However, we are realists and believe that it will be wrong not to seek the points of contact and mutually acceptable solutions wherever it is possible," the head of the Soviet delegation said in conclusion.

Joint Statement Backs Expansion

LD150816 Moscow TASS in English 0742 GMT 15 Apr 88

["Joint Statement on the Further Development of USSR-U.S. Commercial Relation"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—USSR First Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations A.I. Kachanov and U.S. Secretary of Commerce C. William Verity, at the conclusion of the tenth session of the joint USSR-U.S. Commercial Commission held in Moscow April 12-14, 1988, at the instruction of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev and President of the United States Ronald Reagan to develop concrete proposals for the expansion of Soviet-U.S. trade, issued the following joint statement.

The Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America strongly support expansion of mutually beneficial commercial relations, within the legal framework existing in both countries, which they believe can contribute to the development of a more constructive relationship between the two countries.

They recognize that the prospects for a substantial expansion of trade relations are related to progress on other issues of mutual interest, including humanitarian affairs. They note that while significant accomplishments have been made in this respect, more remains to be done.

They recognize that improved business facilities and additional commercial information on business opportunities and contacts will be needed by their firms, enterprises, business and other organizations to conclude mutually beneficial contracts in the changing environment.

They agree that commercially viable joint ventures complying with the laws and regulations of both countries could play a role in the further development of commercial relations.

During the tenth session of the joint commercial commission, the two sides took the following practical steps to facilitate the expansion of bilateral trade and commercial relations:

—Concluded a protocol to the long term agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America to facilitate economic, industrial and technical cooperation, of June 29, 1974, ir which they agreed that the forms of cooperation covered by the terms of the long-term agreement shall include commercially viable joint ventures and industrial cooperation based on mutually beneficial contracts between firms, enterprises, and other appropriate organizations of the two countries. Under the protocol the joint USSR-U.S. commercial commission will monitor the practical implementation of the protocol and develop concrete proposals to achieve the cooperation foreseen therein, and the working group of experts will exchange information that will assist the commissions in developing solutions to specific practical issues relatiog to its implementation and conduct preparatory work for meetings of the commission.

—Established joint commission working groups to identify opportunities and eliminate obstacles to the development of business in the fields of oil and gas equipment, construction equipment, medical equipment and supplies for the medical industry, and consumer industry.

—Agreed to hold a series of legal seminars to improve understanding of the legal conditions affecting Soviet-U.S. commerce and investment.

—Undertook to make information on business opportunities and contacts readily available so as to facilitate the prompt identification and contact of potential business partners.

—Committed themselves to accelerate efforts to improve business faciliteis for company offices and representatives.

—Encouraged representatives and experts of their respective firms, enterprises, and organizations to make use of the official commercial offices of the other side.

—Agreed to expand a program of trade missions, rendering appropriate mutual assistance in their planning and execution.

Both sides affirm their intention to inform their respective firms, enterprises, and organizations of the contents and recommendations of the joint statement and to work toward their full implementation.

Commission Session Ends

LD141246 Moscow TASS in English 1152 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—The state of and prospects for mutual trade, scientific and industrial relations, as well as practical moves on their development were examined by the 10th session of the joint U.S.-Soviet Commercial Commission, which ended here today. The Soviet delegation at the session was led by Aleksandr Kachanov, USSR first deputy minister for foreign economic relations, and the American—by U.S. Commerce Secretary William Verity.

Speeches by heads of the delegations and other participants emphasized that the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Washington last December had created a favourable situation for a search for ways of deepening economic relations.

A protocol providing, inter alia, for establishing several sectoral working groups, was signed on the results of the three days of work. Heads of the delegations also signed a protocol to the long-term agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on promotion of economic, industrial and technical cooperation. This document extends the agreement's provisions to joint ventures and co-production.

A joint statement adopted by the 10th session points out that substantial development of trade is linked with a possibility of gaining progress in other spheres of mutual interest for both sides.

The next session of the commission is scheduled to be held in Washington in 1989.

Joint Polymer Plant Agreement Signed in U.S.

LD150848 Moscow TASS in English 2141 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] San Francisco April 14 TASS—TASS correspondent Andrey Sidorin reports:

The ceremony of signing an agreement on a new joint Soviet-American industrial enterprise has been held in Los Angeles. The agreement, signed with the well-known American oil corporation "Occidental Petroleum", provides for joint construction and exploitation of two synthetic polymers' plants in the Ukraine. The plants will put out polyvinylchloride resins and film. The construction is planned to begin next year and be completed by 1991.

The terms of the agreement provide for 75 per cent of the products to be marketed in the USSR and other CMEA member countries and the rest 25 per cent to be supplied by the Occidental Petroleum to international markets.

In view of the coming changes in the Soviet Union one can expect in the future rapid expansion of the market for such products", said Armand Hammer, chairman of the Occidental Petroleum board of directors. [quotation marks as received]

The Soviet side was represented by First Deputy Minister of Chemical Industry of the USSR Aleksandr Ustkachkintsev. He said that construction and exploitation of polymers' plants in the Ukraine would become the first joint Soviet-American venture in that field.

U.S. Senate Delegation Visits Ukraine

AU131244 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 5 Apr 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "A Conversation in the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] A delegation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the U.S. Senate that is visiting our country arrived in Kiev on 4 April, and visited the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet on the same day. During a conversation P.G. Kostyuk, Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet chairman, briefed the visitors on the Ukraine, its economic and cultural potential, familiarized them with the activity of the republic's supreme organ of state power, and spoke about the progress made by Soviet society in the restructuring processes.

Both sides touched upon the forthcoming ratification of the Washington summit agreements and the development of Soviet-American cooperation in reducing nuclear and other weapons. Problems concerning the elimination of the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES, as well as prospects for developing nuclear power generation were discussed in detail.

The Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet chairman called the attention of the American parliamentarians to the statement made by a group of the republic's Supreme Soviet deputies on the occasion of the draft resolution that was recently submitted to the U.S. Congress on the situation of the church and the believers in the Ukraine, and explained what brought about the need for this statement.

Speaking on behalf of the U.S. senators, B. Johnston, head of the delegation, said:

"In preparing for this trip, we selected Moscow, as it is the capital city of the USSR, and Leningrad, as it is a big city and cultural center. We also wished to visit Kiev, which is well known all over the world. Abroad, it has the reputation of being one of the most beautiful cities. We are here at a very interesting time—at the threshold of general Senate discussion on the treaty concerning two types of missiles, and on the eve of a new summit meeting. This period is also remarkable because of the profound restructuring taking place in your country. All this, I hope, will provide conditions for establishing new, better relations between our two great countries.

"This month," the speaker continued, "a general debate on the Washington treaty will begin in the Senate, and we hope that it will be ratified. This will be the first step along a great path. And we hope that other agreements will also come in its wake, including agreements on control over weapons."

Participating in the conversation were N.G. Khomenko, Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary; deputies V.A. Kravets, A.Ye. Romanenko, and V.P. Fokin; and other officials.

Johnston Received in Kiev

AU140711 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 6 Apr 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "A Meeting in the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] On 5 April, V.A. Masol, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman, received Senator B. Johnston [initial as published], who was heading a group of U.S. senators. During a friendly conversation, views were exchanged on a number of questions of interest for both sides.

V.A. Masol briefed the visitor on the republic's place in the all-union division of labor, on its production and scientific- technological potential, and gave an account of the Council of Ministers' activity under the conditions of restructuring and radical economic reforms. It was said that administrative management methods were now being replaced with economic methods, and that labor collectives were becoming increasingly independent. The purpose of restructuring is to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development, and to further raise the people's prosperity.

It was emphasized that, to create a climate of confidence, it was essential to promote mutually beneficial cooperation. The abolition of trade restrictions on the American side would best serve this purpose. Both you and we, the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers chairman said, have things to offer each other.

B. Johnston agreed that all sorts of embargoes result from a narrow-minded way of thinking. I, the senator said, am not going to let up on efforts to abolish discriminatory measures in trade with the Soviet Union. It is now essential to head for confidence and mutual understanding. The guest pointed out that the process of restructuring and glasnost in the USSR were of great interest to him, that they were a correct path to the people's thriving, prosperity, and peace. In the United States people definitely welcome your spring of renewal, he said.

The conversation was attended by K.P. Boyko, Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers affairs administrator.

Delegation Ends Kiev Visit

AU151403 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 7 Apr 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "A Frank Dialogue"]

[Text] The meeting held recently by the members of the delegation of a U.S. Senate committee with representatives of the republic's public—scientists, specialists in the field of nuclear power generation and medicine, culture and religion figures—turned into an interesting and frank dialogue.

The peoples of the world have met this spring with hope and optimism, V.P. Osnach, chairman of the Presidium of the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and secretary of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet, said in the opening speech. The signing of the Soviet-American treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles marked the beginning of the historic process of the real arms reduction, primarily nuclear arms. The Ukrainian public was pleased to learn that the U.S. Senate had voted for the treaty. This public regards it as a good omen of mutual understanding.

During the meeting both sides noted the erosion that has taken place recently, particularly after the Washington summit meeting, in the traditional unfriendly each side holds of the other. The hope was expressed that the forthcoming meeting in Moscow will give an important new impetus to settling disarmament problems and in promoting cooperation various fields.

The visitors had many things to ask I.N. Vishnevskiy, director of the Nuclear Research Institute of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences, who spoke about the participation of the Ukrainian SSR in the activity of the IAEA. The main thing concerning ourselves and electric power engineers all over the world at present is the safety of nuclear reactors, he pointed out. In this sphere we are cooperating with specialists in many countries, including the United States of America.

The scientist gave an account of the package of measures taken to eliminate the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES, and of prospects for developing the generation of nuclear power.

Participating in the exchange of views were A.N. Shlepakov, member of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; Boris Oleynik, chairman of the Education and Culture Commission of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet, poet; N.M. Gavrilenko, general director of the Ukrainian state "Ukrgeologiya" production association and USSR deputy minister of geology; A.M. Kovalevskiy, secretary of the Ukrainian Trade Unions Council; Filaret, Exarch of the Ukraine and Metropolitan of Kiev and Galich; F.G. Burchak, chief of the Juridical Section in the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.A. Shibik, chairman of the board of the Ukrainian Journalists Union; and others.

The senators toured the Ukrainian capital city, saw the sights, and places of architectural and historical interest. In the Park of Eternal Glory, they laid flowers at the Grave of the Unknown Soldier and paid tribute with a minute of silence to Soviet soldiers who, along with the sons of the American and other peoples participating in the anti-Hitlerite coalition, saved the world from the brown plague.

The delegation left for Moscow on 5 April.

Arbatov Outlines Career, Comments on Institute

PM141205 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 12, 21-27 Mar 88 (Signed to Press 23 Mar 88) p 13

[Interview with Academician Georgiy Arkadyevich Arbatov, "director of the USSR Academy of Sciences U.S. and Canada Institute, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and holder of two Orders of Lenin and other combat and labor awards," by Gagik Karapetyan, under the rubric "Page Thirteen Guest"; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Karapetyan] Georgiy Arkadyevich, you have been head of the institute since it was founded; during these two decades the line of Soviet-American relations has struck both peaks and valleys. What compass helps prevent scientific truth from just wandering aimlessly around the political labyrinths?

[Arbatov] The desire to speak the truth, without giving in to various kinds of infection. The readiness to run a certain risk for the sake of this: Speaking the truth is sometimes risky (but, telling a lie is even more risky, only this is not immediately obvious). To do our duty conscientiously and reliably, my colleagues and I must be objective and must not permit emotions to cloud the horizon of relations between the two great countries. It is bad and dangerous if even sincere impulses of the soul such as righteous anger go out of the scientist's control and color his conclusions in dark hues. But here objectivity by no means signifies indifference. As Soviet citizens and patriots, we U.S. researchers proceed on the basis that it is in our country and our people's interests to maintain normal and good relations with America. As an institute of the Soviet Union we are called on to engage in the study of the United States and Canada. At the same time I will not start to deny that my colleagues and I have on more than one occasion been known to, indeed still do "wander aimlessly" in the labyrinths of discovering such a complex research subject as the United States and also, to a considerable degree, Canada. It is not always easy to understand one's own country, and this applies in a much greater degree to another country. But we try.

[Karapetyan] It is known that your institute also engages in applied research. Please can you give us some specific examples of work done by the institute on resolving our internal tasks?

[Arbatov] For example, we took part in creating the management system of the Kama Truck Plant (some of our personnel won state awards for this work) and in setting up quality control, and we have elaborated recommendations in the agricultural sphere. In particular, our research was among the first to touch on the protein problem—the key link in the animal feed problem and the food problem in general—back in the early seventies. Our personnel have voiced new ideas on a number of aspects of scientific and technical progress...

[Karapetyan] Let us return to politics. The West often calls you "the Kremlin's closest adviser on American affairs"; in the early seventies, during the period of detente, several foreign publications compared you to Kissinger, you were referred to as the Soviet leadership's "confidential adviser..."

[Arbatov] The West is accustomed to automatically transferring the concepts of its own political system to other systems. For this reason its appraisals must be treated cautiously. I never performed Kissinger's (the U.S. President's national security adviser, and then U.S. Secretary of State) role; perhaps the glasses evoked such an association (he smiled). As for advice and consultations on the United States, whenever I or my colleagues had interesting ideas, there was virtually always an opportunity to report them to the leadership. Unfortunately, interesting ideas and valuable proposals do not occur as often as one would like—this "commodity" is quite rare in any sphere of activity, including our own sphere.

Well, I am talking to you in my office, at No 2/3 Khlebnoy Pereulok [Baker's Alley]; excuse the pun: Ideas concerning the United States and Soviet-American relations are precisely the "bread and butter" of everyone who works in this building. It must be won "by the sweat of our brows." We have fruitful and unfruitful years. But it would be wrong to complain. The institute began its work on the eve of major improvements in Soivet-American relations. I think that I personally have been lucky: I witnessed six of the eight summit meetings which took place in the seventies and eighties. At some meetings I was simply present, at others I participated as one of a group of experts. I regard this as an honor, as evidence that during those years I have not worked in vain and that the institute's work and my own knowledge are considered useful. If the institute and myself were not needed in these matters, that would mean that I was failing to cope with my duties and that it was time to retire.

But it is not only and not so much a matter of our scientific efforts. Never before, as far as I can remember, have those whose business, as they say, is politics shown such attention to and interest in the work and opinions of scientists, including political scientists, as now. [passage omitted]

[Karapetyan] Who would you regard as your teachers?

[Arbatov] I owe a great deal to almost every period of my life. Including my brief journalistic past (incidentally, thanks to that I cannot put my signature to work which other people have written for me; I prefer to write it myself). I am indebted to my work on NOVOYE VREMYA for the fact that fate brought me together with Otto Vilgelmovich Kuusinen, the prominent Marxist, revolutionary, and party and state figure. For a long time he was a secret member of the journal's editorial collegium (he signed his articles with the pseudonym N. Baltiyski). [passage omitted]

When the party began the struggle against the personality cult, oases of theoretical and political thought were formed here and there. The authors' collective work on Kuusinen's textbook was one of these. I was fortunate to work in others as well: For instance, on the journal PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA in the early sixties, when the chief editor was A.M. Rumyantsev. Of course, in the CPSU Central Committee apparatus, where I worked as leader of a group of advisers in the section headed at that time by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov (by the way, I was introduced to him by Kuusinen, who knew him through his work in Karelia). I am much indebted to these people as teachers. And also to the colleagues with whom I worked in these collectives. How greatly the creative potential of each person increases in a good collective!

[Karapetyan] Your office contains a photographic chronicle of a number of episodes in Soviet-American relations. What kind of personal relationships have you ahd with the U.S. presidents?

[Arbatov] "Personal relationships"? None at all. When Nixon was president I only managed to exchange polite phrases with him at official receptions. Only in 1986, when the ex-president visited the USSR and came to our institute to give a lecture, did I become acquainted with him more closely. I only saw Carter from a distance. I made Reagan's acquaintance in the street in Washington, at the door of the USSR Embassy—completely by accident, 18 months before he moved to the White House. Incidentally, Reagan remembered that meeting and the brief conversation and one day communicated to me through a common acquaintance, half joking and half in earnest: "I do not eat my own children." And in December last year, during the summit meeting, at the guest presentation ceremonies (these ceremonies were held every day, sometimes even 2-3 times a day) it became a daily joke.

The President would ask: "So I don't eat my own children?" "No," I would reply, "you don't eat your own children."

In brief, I cannot boast of presidential "relationships." I have known the vice presidents better—Mondale and Bush—and those engaged in foreign policy.

[Karapetyan] A Reagan return visit to the USSR is expected. Will you please share your thoughts about the forthcoming summit meeting?

[Arbatov] I will begin with statistics. Reagan will be the fourth U.S. President to visit our country (after Franklin Roosevelt, Nixon and Ford), and the first to have four meetings with a Soviet leader to his credit. Whether quantity will translate into quality here depends on how matters take shape in the future. The preparations are still sluggish, and the Geneva talks are making no progress; the Americans have even gone backward somewhat there.

Of course, it is possible to conceive of the visit even without major accords. It will be of benefit anyway in the sense of improving the political atmosphere. But I would wish for more. More is necessary: The obstructions in relations between the two countries are too great, and tension and the arms race are too dangerous to be satisfied with little. Especially as there will soon be a change of administration, and that as a rule entails a delay in any talks.

History teaches us that time is the most valuable commodity in politics. An improvement in relations between the two powers must not be deferred to the future—until next year, until the next administration. A missed opportunity may be missed for ever.

Commentary Charges USIA With Spreading 'Lies'

PM131601 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Apr 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS Political Observer V. Matyash "Commentary": "Who Is Engaged in Disinformation"]

[Text] Another briefing on "Soviet disinformation" organized by the United States Information Agency (USIA) has been given in Washington with great pomp. The aim of this propaganda exercise, as is clear from reports issued by Voice of America and news agencies, was to present foreign journalists with a fat volume bearing the intriguing title "Soviet Active Measures in the Glasnost Era."

Yes, glasnost, democratization, and restructuring have spread over the vast expanses of our country. It goes without saying that restructuring is regarded in different ways in the West. But what exactly is the intention of the people who compiled this apology for "research," which has been published exactly at a time when there are signs of increased warmth in the international atmosphere, Soviet-U.S. relations included?

Unfortunately, the method used at the Washington briefing cannot be described as new. For example, international organizations whose activity, in official Washington's opinion, is anti-American are usually labeled "pro-Soviet groups"; Soviet newspapers and journals, radio, and television are categorically classed as "channels of disinformation"; and a whole series of expose material which has appeared in the world press is accused of being a "forgery" on no grounds whatsoever.

In particular, the authors of the opus clearly dislike such reliable reports as those on the involvement of American military advisers in the undeclared war against Afghanistan, the terrorist past of Armando Valladares, appointed head of the U.S. delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission, the Pentagon's efforts to prepare for bacteriological warfare, CIA and Pentagon involvement in last year's military coup in Fiji.... The "black list" includes books such as "Death of Jonestown" and "Army of the Night" on the CIA's undercover subversive operations.

Let us take each item in turn. In the USIA's lies, reports on CIA involvement in the mass suicide of a sect in Jonestown are ascribed to Moscow. But none of this material was fabricated by Soviet journalists at their desks; each item contains clear references to the sources of information. Accusations against the CIA have been brought, in particular, by G. Holsinger, assistant to the deceased Congressman L. Ryan, U.S. attorney Mark Lane, and also in a court action brought by a group of relatives of the deceased in October 1981 at the federal court in San Francisco. If TASS, for example, has contributed to the distribution of these stories, it is no more than any other world agency would have done.

Other sections in the USIA report, clearly prepared at prompting from the State Department, the Pentagon, and the CIA, are clear examples of completely malicious disinformation regarding Soviet actions.

The authors of the USIA publication maliciously attack the authors of the book "The CIA: U.S. State Terrorism." Let me remind you that the U.S. press used to go to strenuous efforts to hype the subject of an "international Soviet terrorist network." It is a well-known fact that the book by Clare Sterling "Terrorist Network," which has served as the main source of "information" on Soviet terrorism, was written in collaboration with the CIA. This same CIA puppet also played a significant role in the popularization of the "Bulgarian connection" in the attempted assassination of the pope, and this "connection" led, of course, to the KGB.

It is inconceivable that the Soviet press, radio, and television should lower themselves to this kind of disinformation about America. In light of this I would like to say the following: If we are to create an atmosphere of mutual trust then the efforts of one side alone are clearly not enough. If both sides do not endeavor to create an atmosphere of amicability and turn to look with new eyes on a cardinally different world burdened by the problem of man's survival, it will be extremely difficult to change the situation. What is more, it is precisely the mass media that should set an example of an objective, amicable attitude toward other peoples and other states.

Dukakis Backs Independent Palestinian State

PM131549 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under the rubric "From IZVESTIYA's Teletype Room": "M. Dukakis' Opinion"]

[Text] Michael Dukakis, governor of Massachusetts and the U.S. Democratic Party's leading presidential hopeful, has addressed leaders of the American Jewish community.

He advocated the creation of an independent Palestinian state in the Near East. REUTER emphasizes that, if Dukakis does not renounce this thesis on becoming head of state, he will be the first U.S. president to advocate self-determination for the Palestinian people.

China

Qian Qichen's Attitude Toward USSR Viewed

LD142221 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2045 GMT 14 Apr 88

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by (Aleksey Kolochov)]

[Text] Our next report comes from Tokyo but it concerns China or, to be more exact, that country's foreign minister. The newspaper NIHON KEIZAI, commenting on the appointment of Qian Qichen to that post, notes that he is a career diplomat and that he twice, in the fifties and seventies, worked in the PRC Embassy in Moscow and then, from 1982, was in direct charge of China's USSR policy. He speaks English and Russian well. According to the available information, the Japanese newspaper continues, Qian Qichen adopted a rather hard line at the talks with the USSR. Therefore, his appointment does not at all signify the start of a pro-Soviet tendency in Chinese foreign policy.

However, it seems that one should not be in too much of a hurry to draw such categorical conclusions. The reply to the question of how the new Chinese Foreign minister will act is to be found only in what he does in practice.

Border Consumer Cooperative Chief Interviewed

OW141221 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Text] This station has often introduced the development of Sino-Soviet border trade. For instance, the border areas of Khabarovskiy Kray and Heilongjiang Province are regular trade partners. Not long ago, a trade delegation from Khabarovskiy Kray went to Harbin and signed an extensive trade protocol with Chinese partners. To learn more about this trip, this station's correspondent, Tefiton, conducted an interview with Comrade Kamaishenke, a representative from the Association of Border Consumer Cooperatives.

Comrade Kamaishenke said: This is the biggest deal in recent years. Soviet consumers are going to see Chinese-made commodities like knitwear, women's and children's clothing, shoes, and boots. We sold our Chinese partner household utensils, radios, electrical appliances, and fertilizer.

A Chinese delegation is expected to visit the border town of Leninskoye in May. We are preparing to welcome the delegation and to mount a commodities exhibition. As we all know, to bring about brisk border trade we must continuously expand the categories of commodities traded. We are preparing for the exhibition from this point of view.

We are also working on other things. For example, we are studying the possibility of purchasing China's food processing equipment. If the sample machines function very well, we will buy the equipment for our food industry.

In conclusion, I want to say that the residents of Harbin were very hospitable and obliging to our delegation and of great help to the delegation's work.

Chinese Vocational Teachers Study in USSR

OW142330 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] A group of teachers and principals of Chinese vocational and technical schools arrived in the Soviet Union to study Soviet experience in training workers. They will study for 2 months at Leningrad's College for Vocational and Technical School Teachers.

(Yang Weimin), member of the Chinese delegation and vice principal of Shanghai's (Ningwu) Vocational and Technical School, told our station reporter: We established a vocational and technical educational system in China in the fifties by borrowing the Soviet experience. We are here again to learn from the Soviet Union, which is carrying out reform in vocational and technical education as well as in various other fields.

Northeast Asia

U.S. Nuclear Arms in Japan Denounced

PM131641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 88 Second Edition p 5

[Yuriy Vdovin "Viewpoint": "Courtesy or Intent?"]

[Text] Are there nuclear weapons on Japanese territory? This question can only be answered with any degree of certainty by the people who stand at the helm of power in

Washington and Tokyo and who are responsible for drawing up the two countries' joint strategic plans. But they are keeping quiet. Those of lower rank who are nevertheless au fait with military problems answer this question in such a way when cornered that they neither confirm nor deny the existence of nuclear weapons on Japanese territory.

A convenient stand to take. But is it honest? Can you continue to act like this forever? Is it not time to tell the truth about the real state of affairs? After all, without this it is hard to begin to look for ways to solve the problems of nuclear weapons in this part of the world.

For more than 20 years now U.S. nuclear submarines and other U.S. warships have been calling at Japanese ports; on board, as shown by direct and indirect facts accumulated by the public, are nuclear weapons. The latest such detachment was the U.S. Navy strike group headed by the "Midway" aircraft carrier, which has the facility to carry Tomahawk nuclear cruise missiles and which arrived ostentatiously in Japan after the large-scale U.S.-South Korean "Team Spirit-88" maneuvers. A dangerous load is also carried by the U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers permanently registered on Japanese soil. Nuclear weapon depots have been built at U.S. military bases in Japan and special detachments and centers for nuclear warfare have been sited there. As apparent from recent exercises on Okinawa, they are making preparations for combat operations under the conditions of a nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological "attack." Is it possible, in light of these facts, to believe that there are not and have never been any nuclear weapons on this country's territory? According to information provided by the democratic public, they are stored at no less than 7 of the more than 100 U.S. bases in Japan.

According to the provisions of the Japanese-U.S. "security treaty," Washington is obliged to obtain Tokyo's prior consent before stationing nuclear and other modern types of weapons on Japanese territory. For many years now the Japanese Government has said that inasmuch as it has received no such request from across the ocean then this means that the dangerous load has never been on Japanese soil. However, it is clear from explanations given by officials that Washington believes that calls and anchorage by nuclear-armed warships do not come under the terms "importation" and "stationing" and consequently no prior consultations are required. Moreover, they say, the U.S. position is such that it will neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons on submarines and ships calling at foreign ports. One gets the impression that both Washington and Tokyo have an interest in preserving this position as long as possible. After all, it essentially gives U.S. nuclear-armed warships the right to freely call at Japanese ports and aircraft carrying their dangerous load to land at Japanese airfields.

But what about the three nonnuclear principles—not to produce, stockpile, or import nuclear weapons into Japanese territory—to which the Japanese Government claims to be strongly committed?

This question has been the subject of heated discussions in parliament more than once. At the current session of the country's supreme legislative organ the opposition has asked the government to make it clear whether these principles are still fundamental to Japan's policy and whether it intends to even consult with Washington on the question of U.S. nuclear weapons being imported into Japanese territory. With opposition deputies threatening to boycott parliament, Prime Minister N. Takeshita has been forced to admit that Japan does have the right to these consultations, but he also said that in the present conditions the government does not intend to exercise this right, on the basis of...its "friendly relations with the United States."

So what is this—the traditional Japanese courtesy of such world renown, or an attempt to conceal a secret intent? This is a serious question, to which an answer is awaited not only by Japan's neighbors but by people all over the world.

Trial of Captured Japanese Fishermen Described

PM141145 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 88 Morning Edition p 6

[Own correspondent Yu. Balakirev report under the rubric "From the Court Room": "Violators From the Kita-Yamato Ridge"]

[Text] Nakhodka—Nakhodka City People's Court has examined in open session the cases of Japanese citizens Funakoshi Yosaku and Nagasaki Yoshitaka on a charge of violating the regulations governing the USSR continental shelf. The investigation and trial had been preceded by incidents near a submarine elevation at the center of the Sea of Japan known by the name of the Yamato Ridge, where the borders of the economic zones of the USSR, Japan, and the DPRK meet. The northern sector of the shallow area—the Kita-Yamato Ridge—belongs to our country. What happened there?

This ridge is renowned for its colonies of red strigun crabs. We do not yet catch them, for we look on this section of the shelf as a reservation and guard it both from the air and from the sea. Only we cannot keep aircraft and ships there permanently—it is too remote. But the Japanese, who have well mastered the catching of strigun and the processing technology, are on duty nearby—in their own zone—throughout the fishing period. And sometimes they "muddle their geography" and penetrate the Soviet economic zone. It is quite easy to detect them from the air, but more complex to arrest them: Before an inspection or border guard vessel can arrive, the poacher has time to move over into his own waters.

However, on 13 January this year the crab-catching schooner "Shinge Maru 5" failed to escape our patrol. The poachers were intercepted at dawn, caught red-handed. V. Malinovskiy, chief of "Primorrybvod's" Continental Shelf Protection and International Control Department, climbed on board the schooner as part of the inspection group. The first thing to strike him was the plastic baskets full of an illegal catch. The second was the sophisticated navigation equipment. On the schooner they discovered two radar and two radio navigation systems which make it possible to determine the boat's position even without a special chart. But there was a chart in the deckhouse, on which the border of the economic zone was marked. So it only remained for catch chief Nagasaki Yoshitaka to admit the violation—which he did. The poachers had had time to raise 85 traps, but, on sensing danger, they hastily cut adrift part of the line—90 traps. There were 2,298 strigun crabs in baskets.

"Not far away," Malinovskiy said, "we noticed a buoy—a cylinder-shaped piece of expanded plastic the size of a 200-liter barrel. Painted gray, it blended with the sea. And the buoy was right where a second line was marked on the Japanese chart. We asked the schooner crew to recover it. In 4 hours they raised a further 216 traps...."

Two days later the schooner "Shinwa Maru 15" was arrested with an illegal catch on the same ridge. This time the poachers' catch was more modest—327 crabs: They had not had time to really get going. Catch chief Funakoshi Yosaku admitted that he had deliberately entered that zone because the crabs there are of better quality.

Both poacher schooners set course for Nakhodka not of their own will.

And the Japanese consul general in Nakhodka at once presented two notes. In them the Japanese side asked the Soviet side to provide it with more detailed information—a thorough description of the situation at the time of the boats' inspection and arrest and their exact coordinates—to report the court investigation schedule, and to grant an opportunity to visit those boats. All the consulate general's wishes were satisfied. Its representatives even attended the trial.

The interests of the accused were upheld by experienced defense lawyers, and interpreters were used. The people's assessors—I. Paramzin, boatswain of the Far Eastern Ship Machine Plant, and D. Shcherbakov, fishing port pilot—are labor veterans and were able to delve into all the fine points of nautical matters. Both Soviet specialists and crew members of the crab-catching schooners were called as witnesses. The guilt of Funakoshi Yosaku and Nagasaki Yoshitaka was irrefutably proven, and they themselves candidly admitted it.

B. Manoshin, chairman of the city court, had not had a previous occasion to hear a case of this kind. And it was probably the first time there had been a criminal trial in the country relating to poaching on the continental shelf. Proceedings had been instituted before against overseas violators taking salmon, say, from the open sea, but they were administrative proceedings. In this case—for piratical exploitation of natural riches on our shelf, as well as for research and other work on it—criminal proceedings are instituted. The court may fine foreigners up to R10,000, imprison them for up to 1 year, and also confiscate the boat, all tackle and implements, and the entire illegal catch.

In their concluding words the accused asked for just one thing: not to confiscate the boat. Funakoshi Yosaku received the sentence with joy: The court sentenced him to 6 months' imprisonment (reckoned from the day he arrived in Nakhodka). It was decided to recover from the convicted man R654 in favor of "Primorrybvod," to cancel the arrest of the boat "Shinwa Maru 15" and all its equipment, and to return the material evidence to the captain. The court left Nagasaki Yoshitaka at liberty but confiscated the schooner "Shinge Maru 5" and imposed a sizable fine. That measure shook the enterprising slick operator. The emotional restraint which Yoshitaka had displayed during the court sessions failed him after sentencing. On leaving the building he fell to the concrete floor and clutched his head in his hands. The loss of the boat betokens big difficulties in his life....

But why were different degrees of punishment determined in Nakhodka for what seemed to be similar transgressions? Court Chairman B. Manoshin explained his position like this:

"We believed that this was the first time Funakoshi Yosaka had stumbled. The catch was small. We established that he himself had been sick for 6 months, his wife does not work at home, and he has two underage daughters.... Moreover, he did not try to evade arrest—and we took all this into consideration. But Nagasaki Yoshitaka had tried to escape on his schooner and failed to respond at once to our pyrotechnic, sound, and light signals. A system is perceivable in his poaching actions: He began setting out crab-catching lines in our zone back at the end of last year. And the total damage was quite different."

It is possible to have a human understanding of the accused's personal drama. But there is and can be no justification in the laws of any state for a rapacious incursion into other people's storerooms. And when State Prosecutor V. Danilenko demanded more severe punishment in court, she had her reasons. Encroachments on the resources of our economic zone are becoming more frequent. This is stated, for example, in "Primorrybvod's" annual report: Last year Far Eastern basin fish protection administrations exposed 324 violations. That is, the number of violations increased 40 percent compared with 1986. The total of the fines imposed increased 170 percent. No one has counted the true losses. And they will not be reckoned up as long as the basin inspectorates vegetate as "poor relations" in the system of the fish industry: They have the most decrepit, slowest vessels and the most antediluvian equipment. It is said that a vessel handed over to inspectors once began sinking right in the port. There is food for thought....

The strigun crabs on the Kita-Yamato Ridge gained a breathing space after the arrest of the two schooners, but not for long. According to air patrol data, in March foreign fishing boats were already turning up there....

Students, Workers Stage Strikes in South Korea

SK150448 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Text] According to a report from Seoul, an acute political struggle is being staged in South Korea today in connection with the parliamentary elections to take place this month. The following are remarks by Igor Leonidov, commentator of this radio station, in connection with this matter:

Campaigns for the parliamentary elections slated for 26 April officially began today, 8 April. However, the actual preparations for the elections began a long time ago. As of today, approximately 1,000 candidates from about 10 political parties expressed their decision to run for the National Assembly. Commentators view that there is a great possibility for the Democratic Justice Party, the ruling party, to obtain the majority of seats in the forthcoming parliamentary elections. Such a view is not groundless at all.

Just as in the presidential election, the two major opposition parties will nominate their own candidates in the forthcoming elections. However, this will remarkably disturb the opportunities of consolidating success in this election. Furthermore, the split among the opposition forces would be more serious due to the undisguised declaration of the Reunification Democratic Party that it will bring many assemblymen of the Party of Peace and Democracy over to its side.

However, the attitude of opposition forces in criticizing the current regime is unanimous. Both Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam appealed to the authorities to release all political detainees and demanded that censorship on publication and drama be completely abolished, the people's right to stage mass rallies and demonstrations be firmly ensured, and the irregularities and financial scandal of those who were close to former president Chon Tu-hwan be thoroughly investigated.

The opposition forces demand that the authorities begin implementing their pledge for broad democratic reforms within the nation. However, the reality shows that the key officials in Chongwadae are not hastening the implementation of their pledge. Several hundred people are suffering in prisons because of their political views. The French magazine (MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE) noted that since No Tae-u was elected president, owners of enterprises are again controlling workers with the help of the authorities and police and that fierce repression of activists have begun again.

The student movement is also being suppressed. For example, this week, areas around Songgyungwan University and Konguk University were submerged under tear gas and several hundred riot policemen entered these schools and attempted to frustrate the students' antigovernment demonstrations and to check the street march. The students threw stones and molotov cocktails at the police, resisting their tear gas attack. Seven leaders of the student movement in Kyongsang University in Chinju were arrested. The police used violence when they were dispersing a student conference and the students protested against this. The recent student movement was the most powerful one since the No Tae-u regime was launched.

Commentators noted that the characteristic nature of the recent student movement is that students took joint actions with the workers and peasants who were struggling for their rights. According to an article in THE FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, about 140 cases of labor disputes occurred in less than 3 months since the beginning of the year. During this period, a large-scale strike took place in Daewoo Shipyard in Kojedo and approximately 10,000 workers suspended their work. The authorities are not trying to take a step of mass repression because they are afraid of the possibility of greater resistance struggles in the wake of the parliamentary elections.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Reportage on Rogachev Visit to Indonesia

Meets Foreign Minister Alatas

LD132306 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Jakarta April 13 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev met here today with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

During their friendly meeting they held a thorough discussion on pressing international problems, prospects for developing Soviet-Indonesian cooperation in various fields, and regional conflicts.

Rogachev briefed his host on the Soviet Union's efforts to expedite the process of drafting a bilateral treaty with the United States for halving strategic offensive weapons and on the forthcoming signature of accords for a political settlement regarding Afghanistan.

Alatas hailed the achievement of the Afghan settlement accords. He said his country was glad that after so many efforts and many years of patient diplomacy by all the participants in the talks it had proved possible to solve the difficult problem.

Pointing to the assistance given to the process by the United Nations secretary general and his personal envoy to the Geneva negotiations, he added that the Soviet line of increasing the role of the universal international organization was appreciated in Indonesia.

Moscow To Continue Afghan Aid

BK131412 Hong Kong AFP in English 1351 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Jakarta, April 13 (AFP)—The Soviet Union will continue to supply Afghanistan with all its development needs, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia Igor Rogachev said here Wednesday.

Moscow would remain faithful to the 1921 treaty in which it promised to help all Afghan governments and it would "support the national reconciliation policy of (President) Najibullah", Mr. Rogachev told a press conference here. Mr. Rogachev is leading the Soviet delegation to the 44th United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) session here.

He said there was "no connection" between the Afghan settlement reached in Geneva last week and the next summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The signing of the peace agreement is an important step which should lead to a definite resolution of the Afghan conflict, he said. The Afghan people are "tired of the struggle, (which) we can understand", Mr. Rogachev said.

Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister Farid Zarif, who is also taking part in the ESCAP session, Wednesday launched an appeal to the international community to offer aid to Afghanistan and help it develop foreign trade. "We have every reason to believe that peace would be restored in our land and our people would have the opportunity to deal with their socio-economic problems," Mr. Zarif said.

Demichev Meets With Foreign Ambassadors

Receives Departing Lao Envoy

LD131418 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received the ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the USSR, Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, in the Kremlin today, in connection with his final departure for home. In the course of the warm, friendly conversation, note was made of the successful development of the multifaceted Soviet-Lao relations. A mutual aspiration to deepening and further invigorating bilateral links was confirmed. In discussing international problems, determination was expressed to continue to promote to the utmost the intensification of cooperation between all countries in the struggle to secure peace, security and cooperation on earth, including in the Asian-Pacific region, and the achievement of a political settlement to the conflicts existing there.

Papua New Guinea Envoy Arrives

LD132223 Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 13 TASS—Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Papua New Guinea, Andrew M. D. Yauieb today presented his credentials in the Kremlin to first vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Petr Demichev.

A friendly conversation between Petr Demichev and Andrew Yauieb was held after the presentation of credentials and the exchange of speeches.

Near East & South Asia

Reportage on Afghan-Pakistan Geneva Accords

'Full Text' of Accords

LD141629 Moscow TASS in English 1547 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—Follows the full text of the bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the principles of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention:

The Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the high contracting parties,

Desiring to normalize relations and promote good-neighbourliness and co-operation as well as to strengthen international peace and security in the region,

Considering that full observance of the principle of non-interference and non-intervention in the internal and external affairs of states is of the greatest importance for the maintenance of international peace and security and for the fulfillment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Reaffirming the inalienable right of states freely to determine their own political, economic, cultural and social systems in accordance with the will of their peoples, without outside intervention, interference, subversion, coercion or threat in any form whatsoever, Mindful of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the resolutions adopted by the United Nations on the principle of non-interference and non-intervention, in particular the declaration on principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among states in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, of 24 October 1970, as well as the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and Interference in the Internal affairs of States, of 9 December 1981,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

Relations between the high contracting parties shall be conducted in strict compliance with the principle of non-interference and non-intervention by states in the affairs of other states.

Article II

For the purpose of implementing the principle of non-interference and non-intervention each high contracting party undertakes to comply with the following obligations:

(1) To respect the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, national unity, security and non-alignment of the other high contracting party, as well as the national identity and cultural heritage of its people;

(2) To respect the sovereign and inalienable rights of the other high contracting party freely to determine its own political, economic, cultural and social systems, to develop its international relations and to exercise permanent sovereignty over its natural resources, in accordance with the will of its people, and without outside intervention, interference, subversion, coercion or threat in any form whatsoever;

(3) To refrain from the threat or use of force in any form whatsoever so as not to violate the boundaries of each other, to disrupt the political, social or economic order of the other high contracting party, to overthrow or change the political system of the other high contracting party or its government, or to cause tension between the high contracting parties;

(4) To ensure that its territory is not used in any manner which would violate the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity or disrupt the political, economic and social stability of the other high contracting party;

(5) To refrain from armed intervention, subversion, military occupation or any other form of intervention and interference, overt or covert, directed at the other high contracting party, or any act of military, political or economic interference in the internal affairs of the other high contracting party, including acts of reprisals involving the use of force;

(6) To refrain from any action or attempt in whatever form or under whatever pretext to destabilize or to undermine the stability of the other high contracting party or any of its institutions;

(7) To refrain from the promotion, encouragement or support, direct or indirect, of rebellious or secessionist activities against the other high contracting party, under any pretext whatsoever, or from any other action which seeks to disrupt the unity or to undermine or subvert the political order of the other high contracting party;

(8) To prevent within its territory the training, equipping, financing and recruitment of mercenaries from whatever origin for the purpose of hostile activities against the other high contracting party, to the sending of such mercenaries into the territory of the other high contracting party and accordingly to deny facilities, including financing for the training, equipping and transit of such mercenaries;

(9) To refrain from making any agreements or arrangements with other states designed to intervene or interfere in the internal and external affairs of the other high contracting party;

(10) To abstain from any defamatory campaign, vilification or hostile propaganda for the purpose of intervening or interfering in the affairs of the other high contracting party;

(11) To prevent any assistance to or use of or tolerance of terrorist groups, saboteurs or subversive agents against the other high contracting party;

(12) To prevent within its territory the presence, harbouring, in camps and bases or otherwise, organizing, training, financing, equipping and arming of individuals and political, ethnic and any other groups for the purpose of creating subversion, disorder or unrest in the territory of the other high contracting party and accordingly also to prevent the use of mass media and the transportation of arms, ammunition and equipment by such individuals and groups.

(13) Not to resort to or to allow any other action that could be considered as interference or intervention.

Article III

The present agreement shall enter into force on 15 May 1988.

Article IV

Any steps that may be required in order to enable the high contracting parties to comply with the provisions of

Article II of this agreement shall be completed by the date on which this agreement enters into force.

Article V

This agreement is drawn up in the English, Pashto and Urdu languages, all texts being equally authentic. In any case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Done in five original copies at Geneva this fourteenth day of April 1988.

(Signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan)

Main Points Summarized

LD141503 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—A package of agreements on the political settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan was signed here today.

The documents were signed by the heads of foreign policy departments: of the Republic of Afghanistan—'Abdul Wakil, of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan—Zain Noorani, of the Soviet Union—Eduard Shevardnadze, of the United States—George Shultz.

The signing ceremony was attended by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his personal representative Diego Cordovez who mediated at the lengthy and complicated talks in Geneva.

The conclusion of the agreements means the termination of outside interference in Afghanistan's affairs. They enable the Afghan people to build peace on their land. Afghanistan and Pakistan have assumed legal commitments excluding any interference in each other's affairs.

They pledge not to provide their territories for hostile actions against the other side and refrain from any forms of intervention, overt or covert, from any act of military, political or economic interference, to refrain from assistance, encouragement or support for any insurgent or separatist activity.

Under the documents signed, Afghanistan and Pakistan pledge not to allow their territory to be used for training, equipping, financing and recruiting mercenaries, refrain from concluding agreements or accords with other states directed at intervention or interference in the internal or external affairs of the other side.

Other measures ensuring peace on the much-suffering land of Afghanistan are also envisaged.

From now on the Afghan people themselves will determine their destiny. They will be able to put an end to war and establish peace on their land on the basis of the policy of national reconciliation and unification of all patriotic forces. Another most acute problem is being resolved, the problem of refugees who are given a chance to return home.

The event that took place today is probably not in any way inferior by its international implications to the INF Treaty. The signing of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan will undoubtedly give an impetus to the process of settling other regional crises.

By their participation in the settlement of the Afghan problem, the USSR and the United States create a precedent of constructive cooperation which is so necessary for improving international relations on the whole.

International Guarantees Declaration

LD141650 Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—Follows the full text of the Declaration on International Guarantees:

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and of the United States of America,

Expressing support that the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have concluded a negotiated political settlement designed to normalize relations and promote good-neighborliness between the two countries as well as to strengthen international peace and security in the region;

Wishing in turn to contribute to the achievement of the objectives that the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have set themselves, and with a view to ensuring respect for their sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment;

Undertake to invariably refrain from any form of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and to respect the commitments contained in the bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the principles of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention;

Urge all states to act likewise.

The present declaration shall enter into force on 15 May 1988.

Done at Geneva, this fourteenth day of April 1988 in five original copies, each in the English and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

(Signed by the USSR and the USA)

Agreement on Refugee Return

LD141656 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—Follows the full text of the bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Paksitan on the voluntary return of refugees:

The Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the high contracting parties,

Desiring to normalize relations and promote good-neighbourliness and co-operation as well as to strengthen international peace and security in the region,

Convinced that voluntary and unimpeded repatriation constitutes the most appropriate solution for the problem of Afghan refugees present in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and having ascertained that the arrangements for the return of the Afghan refugees are satisfactory to them,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

All Afghan refugees temporarily present in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall be given the opportunity to return voluntarily to their homeland in accordance with the arrangements and conditions set out in the present agreement.

Article II

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan shall take all necessary measures to ensure the following conditions for the voluntary return of Afghan refugees to their homeland:

(a) All refugees shall be allowed to return in freedom to their homeland;

(b) All returnees shall enjoy the free choice of domicile and freedom of movement within the Republic of Afghanistan;

(c) All returnees shall enjoy the right to work, to adequate living conditions and to share in the welfare of the state;

(d) All returnees shall enjoy the right to participate on an equal basis in the civic affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan. They shall be ensured equal benefits from the solution of the land question on the basis of the land and water reform;

(e) All returnees shall enjoy the same rights and privileges, including freedom of religion, and have the same obligations and responsibilities as any other citizens of the Republic of Afghanistan without discrimination .

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan undertakes to implement these measures and to provide, within its possibilities, all necessary assistance in the process of repatriation.

Article III

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall facilitate the voluntary, orderly and peaceful repatriation of all Afghan refugees staying within its territory and undertakes to provide, within its possibilities, all necessary assistance in the process of repatriation.

Article IV

For the purpose of organising, coordinating and supervising the operations which should effect the voluntary, orderly and peaceful repatriation of Afghan refugees, there shall be set up mixed commissions in accordance with the established international practice. For the performance of their functions the members of the commissions and their staff shall be accorded the necessary facilities, and have access to the relevant areas within the territories of the high contracting parties.

Article V

With a view to the orderly movement of the returnees, the commissions shall determine frontier crossing points and establish necessary transit centres. They shall also establish all other modalities for the phased return of refugees, including registration and coomunication to the country of return of the names of refugees who express the wish to return.

Article VI

At the request of the governments concerned, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will cooperate and provide assistance in the process of voluntary repatriation of refugees in accordance with the present agreement. Special agreements may be concluded for this purpose between UNHCR and the high contracting parties.

Article VII

The present agreement shall enter into force on 15 May 1988. At that time the mixed commissions provided in Article IV shall be established and the operations for the voluntary return of refugees under this agreement shall commence.

The arrangements set out in Articles IV and V above shall remain in effect for a period of eighteen months. After that period the high contracting parties shall review the results of the repatriation and, if necessary, consider any further arrangements that may be called for.

Article VIII

This agreement is drawn up in the English, Pashto, and Urdu languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Done in five original copies at Geneva this fourteenth day of April 1988.

(Signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan)

Agreement on Interrelationships

LD141713 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—Follows the full text of the agreement on the interrelationships for the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan:

1. The diplomatic process initiated by the secretary-general of the United Nations with the support of all governments concerned and aimed at achieving, through negotiations, a political settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan has been successfully brought to an end.

2. Having agreed to work towards a comprehensive settlement designed to resolve the various issues involved and to establish a framework for good-neighbourliness and cooperation, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan entered into negotiations through the intermediary of the personal representative of the secretary-general at Geneva from 16 to 24 June 1982. Following consultations held by the personal representative in Islamabad, Kabul and Tehran from 21 January to 7 February 1983, the negotiations continued at Geneva from 11 to 22 April and from 12 to 24 June 1983. The personal representative again visited the area for high level discussions from 3 to 15 April 1984. It was then agreed to change the format of the negotiations and, in pursuance thereof, proximity talks through the intermediary of the personal representative were held at Geneva from 24 to 30 August 1984. Another visit to the area by the personal representative from 25 to 31 May 1985 preceded further rounds of proximity talks held at Geneva from 20 to 25 June, from 27 to 30 August and from 16 to 19 December 1985. The personal representative paid an additional visit to the area from 8 to 18 March 1986 for consultations. The final round of negotiations began as proximity talks at Geneva on May 5 1986, was suspended on 23 May 1986, and was resumed from 31 July to 8 August 1986. The personal representative visited the area from 20 November to 3 December 1986 for further consultations and the talks at Geneva were resumed again from 25 February to 9 March 1987, and from 7 to 11 September 1987. The personal representative again visited the area from 18 January to 9 February 1988 and the talks resumed at Geneva from 2 March to 8 April 1988. The format of the negotiations was changed on 14 April 1988, when the instruments comprising the settlement were finalized, and, accordingly, direct talks were held at that stage. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran was kept informed of the progress of the negotiations throughout the diplomatic process.

3. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan took part in the negotiations with the expressed conviction that they were acting in accordance with their rights and obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and agreed that the political settlement should be based on the following principles of international law:

—The principle that states shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations;

—The principle that states shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered;

—The duty not to intervene in matters within the domestic jurisdiction of any state, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

—The duty of states to cooperate with one another in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

—The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples;

—The principle of sovereign equality of states;

—The principle that states shall fulfill in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

The two governments further affirmed the right of the Afghan refugees to return to their homeland in a voluntary and unimpeded manner.

4. The following instruments were concluded on this date as component parts of the political settlement:

A bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the principles of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention;

A declaration on international guarantees by the Union of Soviet Sccialist Republics and the United States of America;

A bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the voluntary return of refugees;

The present agreement on the interrelationships for the settlement of the situation relating to afghanistan.

5. The bilateral agreement on the principles of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention, the declaration on international guarantees, the bilateral agreement on the voluntary return of refugees, and the present agreement on the interrelationships for the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan will enter into force on 15 May 1988. In accordance with the time frame agreed upon between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Afghanistan there will be a phased withdrawal of the foreign troops which will start on the date of entry into force mentioned above. One half of the troops will be withdrawn by 15 August 1988 and the withdrawal of all troops will be completed within nine months.

6. The interrelationships in paragraph 5 above have been agreed upon in order to achieve effectively the purpose of the political settlement, namely that as from 15 May 1988. There will be no interference and intervention in any form in the affairs of the parties; the international guarantees will be in operation; the voluntary return of the refugees to their homeland will start and be completed within the timeframe specified in the agreement on the voluntary return of the refugees; and the phased withdrawal of the foreign troops will start and be completed within the timeframe envisaged in paragraph 5. It is therefore essential that all the obligations deriving from the instruments concluded as component parts of the settlement be strictly fulfilled and that all the steps required to ensure full complicance with all the provisions of the instruments be completed in good faith.

7. To consider alleged violations and to work out prompt and mutually satisfactory solutions to questions that may arise in the implementation of the instruments comprising the settlement representatives of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall meet whenever required.

A representative of the secretary-general of the United Nations shall lend his good offices to the parties and in that context he will assist in the organization of the meetings and participate in them. He may submit to the parties for their consideration and approval suggestions and recommendations for prompt, faithful and complete observance of the provisions of the instruments.

In order to enable him to fulfill his tasks, the representative shall be assisted by such personnel under his authority as required. On his own initiative, or at the request of any of the parties, the personnel shall investigate any possible violations of any of the provisions of the instruments and prepare a report thereon. For that purpose, the representative and his personnel shall receive all the necessary cooperation from the parties, including all freedom of movement within their respective territories required for effective investigation. Any report submitted by the representative to the two governments shall be considered in a meeting of the parties no later than forty-eight hours after it has been submitted.

The modalities and logistical arrangements for the work of the representative and the personnel under his authority as agreed upon with the parties are set out in the memorandum of understanding which is annexed to an is part of this agreement.

8. The present instrument will be registered with the secretary-general of the United Nations. It has been examined by the representatives of the parties to the bilateral agreements and of the states-guarantors, who have signified their consent with its provisions. The representatives of the parties, being duly authorized thereto by their respective governments, have affixed their signatures hereunder. The secretary-general of the United Nations was present.

Done, at Geneva, this fourteenth day of April 1988, in five orginal copies each in the English, Pashto, Russian and Urdu Languages, all being equally authentic. In case of any dispute regarding the interpretation the English text shall prevail.

(Signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan)

In witness thereof, the representatives of the states-guarantors affixed their signatures hereunder:

(Signed by the USSR and USA)

Memorandum of Understanding

LD141817 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Numbering as received]

[Text]

Annex

Memorandum of Understanding

1. Basic Requirements

(A) The parties will provide full support and co-operation to the representative of the secretary-general and to all the personnel assigned to assist him;

(B) the representative of the secretary-general and his personnel will be accorded every facility as well as prompt and effective assistance, including freedom of movement and communications, accomodation, transportation and other facilities that may be necessary for the performance of their tasks. Afghanistan and Pakistan undertake to grant to the representative and his staff all the relevant privileges and immunities provided for by the convention on the privileges and immunities of the United Nations.

(C) Afghanistan and Pakistan will be responsible for the safety of the representative of the secretary-general and his personnel while operating in their respective countries.

(D) In performing their functions, the representative of the secretary-general and his staff will act with complete impartiality. The representative of the secretary-general and his personnel must not interfere in the [words indistinct] for any of the parties concerned.

II. Mandate

The mandate for the implementation-assistance arrangements envisaged in paragraph 7 derives from the instruments comprising the settlement. All the staff assigned to the representative of the secretary-general will accordingly be carefully briefed on the relevant provisions of the instruments and on the procedures that will be used to ascertain violations thereof.

III. Modus Operandi and Personnel Organization

The secretary-general will appoint a senior military officer as deputy to the representative, who will be stationed in the area, as head of two small headquarters units, one in Kabul and the other in Islamabad, each comprising five military officers, drawn from existing United Nations operations, and a small civilian auxiliary staff.

The deputy to the representative of the secretary-general will act on behalf of the representative and be in contact with the parties through the liaison officer each party will designate for this purpose.

The two headquarters units will be organized into two inspection teams to ascertian on the ground any violation of the instruments comprising the settlement. Whenever considered necessary by the representative of the secretary-general or his deputy, up to 40 additional military officers (some 10 additional inspection teams) will be redeployed from existing operations within the shortest possible time (normally around 48 hours).

The nationalities of all the officers will be determined in consultation with the parties.

Whenever necessary the representative of the secretary-general, who will periodically visit the area for consultations with the parties and to review the work of his personnel, will also assign to the area members of his own office and other civilian personnel from the United Nations Secretariat as may be needed. His deputy will alternate between the two headquarters units and will remain at all times in close communication with him.

IV. Procedure

(A) Inspections Conducted at the Request of the Parties

(i) A complaint regarding a violation of the instruments of the settlement lodged by any of the parties should be submitted in writing, in the English language, to the respective headquarters units and should indicate all relevant information and details.

(ii) Upon receipt of a complaint the deputy to the representative of the secretary-general will immediately inform the other party of the complaint and undertake an investigation by making on-site inspections, gathering testimony and using any other procedure which he may deem necessary for the investigation of the alleged violation. Such inspection will be conducted using headquarters staff as referred to above, unless the deputy representative of the secretary-general considers that additional teams are needed. In that case, the parties will, under the principle of freedom of movement, allow immediate access of the additional personnel to their respective territories.

(iii) Reports on investigations will be prepared in English and submitted by the deputy representative of the secretary-general to the two governments, on a confidential basis. (A third copy of the report will be simultaneously transmitted, on a confidential basis, to United Nations Headquarters in New York, exclusively for the information of the secretary-general and his representative). In accordance with Paragraph 7 a report on an investigation should be considered in a meeting of the parties not later than 48 hours after it has been submitted. The deputy representative of the secretary-general will, in the absence of the representative, lend his good offices to the parties and in that context he will assist in the organization of the meetings and participate in them. In the context of those meetings the deputy representative of the secretary-general may submit to the parties for their consideration and approval suggestions and recommendations for the prompt, faithful and complete observance of the provisions of the instruments. (Such suggestions and recommendations will be, as a matter of course, consulted with, and cleared by, the representative of the secretary-general).

(B) Inspections Conducted on the Initiative of the Deputy Representative of the Secretary-General

In addition to inspections requested by the parties, the deputy representative of the secretary-general may carry out on his own initiative and in consultation with the representative inspections he deems appropriate for the purpose of the implementation of Paragraph 7. If it is considered that the conclusions reached in an inspection justify a report to the parties, the same procedure used in submitting reports in connection with inspections carried out at the request of the parties will be followed.

Level of Participation in Meetings

As indicated above, the deputy representative of the secretary-general will participate at meetings of the parties convened for the purpose of considering reports on violations. Should the parties decide to meet for the purpose outlined in Paragraph 7 at a high political level, the representative of the secretary-general will personally attend such meetings.

V. Duration

The deputy to the representative of the secretary-general and the other personnel will be established in the area not later than twenty days before the entry into force of the instruments. The arrangements will cease to exist two months after the completion of all timeframes enviaged for the implementation of the instruments.

VI. Financing

The cost of all facilities and services to be provided by the parties will be borne by the respective governments. The salaries and travel expenses of the personnel to and from the area, as well as the costs of the local personnel assigned to the headquarters units, will be defrayed by the United Nations.

Agreements Summarized

LD150033 Moscow TASS in English 1731 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—The bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the principles of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention, signed in Geneva today, says that each contracting party undertakes to respect the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, security and nonalignment of the other high contracting party, as well as the national identity and cultural heritage of its people.

Both states pledge to respect each other's right freely to determine one's own political, economic, cultural and social systems, and refrain from the threat or use of force so as not to disrupt the political, social or economic order.

Both sides undertake to ensure that their territories are not used in any manner which would violate the sovereignty, political independence or territorial integrity of each other.

They pledge to refrain from armed intervention, subversion, military occupation or any other form of intervention and interference, or any action or attempt in whatever form or under whatever pretext to destabilise or to undermine the stability of each other and refrain from encouragement or support, direct or indirect, of rebellious or secessionist activities against each other.

Afghanistan and Pakistan undertook to prevent within their territories the training, equipping, financing and recruitment of mercenaries for the purpose of hostile activities against each other.

Afghanistan and Pakistan are to refrain from making any agreements or arrangements with other states designed to intervene or interfere in the internal and external affairs of each other.

They pledge to prevent any assistance to or use of terrorist groups, saboteurs or subversive agents against each other.

The bilateral agreement is to enter into force on May 15, 1988 and any steps that may be required in order to enable the parties to comply with its provisions should be completed by that date.

In another document, the declaration on international guarantees, the governments of the Soviet Union and the United States undertake to invariably refrain from any form of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and to respect the commitments contained in the bilateral agreement between Afghanistan and Pakistan on the principles of mutual relations.

The governments of the two countries urge all states to act likewise.

The declaration on international guarantees is to enter into force on May 15, 1988.

The third document, the bilateral agreement between Afghanistan and Pakistan on the voluntary return of refugees, says that the sides agree that all Afghan refugees temporarily present in the territory of Pakistan shall be given the opportunity to return voluntarily to their homeland.

The Afghan Government undertakes to adopt all necessary measures to ensure conditions for their return. All returnees will enjoy the free choice of domicile and freedom of movement within the Republic of Afghanistan.

They will enjoy the right to work and participate on an equal basis in the civic affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, and be ensured equal benefits from the solution of the land question on the basis of the land and water reform.

They will enjoy the same rights and privileges, including freedom of religion, as any other citizens of Afghanistan.

The Pakistani Government is to facilitate the voluntary, orderly and peaceful repatriation of all Afghan refugees and undertake to provide all necessary assistance in the process of their repatriation.

This agreement is to enter into force 60 days [as received] after signing.

In the fourth document, the agreement on the interrelationships for the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan, the parties have agreed that the political settlement should be based on the principles that states shall refrain from the threat or use of force, settle their international disputes by peaceful means and not to intervene in matters within the domestic jurisdiction of any state in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

To consider alleged violations and to work out prompt and mutually satisfactory solutions to questions that may arise in the implementation of the instruments, representatives of Afghanistan and Pakistan will meet whenever required.

A representative of the U.N. secretary-general shall lend his good offices to the parties in the future as well. Necessary assistance will be provided to him.

'Text' of Perez de Cuellar Remarks

LD141508 Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—Follows the full text of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's remarks in Geneva following the signature of accords on a political settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan:

Excellencies,

The documents which have just been signed constitute a most significant achievement.

They represent a major stride in the effort to bring peace to Afghanistan and a sure reprieve for its people. The challenge facing the people of Afghanistan is great, but it can and must be met by them alone. The agreements lay the basis for the exercise by all Afghans of their right to self-determination, a principle enshrined in the charter of the United Nations.

I am confident that the signatories of these agreements will abide fully by the letter and spirit of the texts and that they will implement them in good faith—for the sake of all the people of Afghanistan and for the wider objective of peace in the region and the world.

I have held a deep personal commitment to a peaceful solution of the situation relating to Afghanistan since the day, over seven years ago when, as personal representative of my predecessor, I participated in laying the groundwork for the agreements that have been signed today. I wish, at this stage, to express my warm appreciation to my personal representative, Mr. Diego Cordovez for his skillful and patient endeavours as well as to the other members of the United Nations team.

The ceremony today is indeed a testimony to the capacity of the United Nations to attain positive results on the most complex of issues when backed by the political will of its member states.

In closing, I wish to assure the people of Afghanistan that the United Nations and the international community stand ready to assist them in this critical moment of their history, in meeting the serious humanitarian and economic needs of their country.

Shultz Holds News Conference

LD141840 Moscow TASS in English 1648 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva, April 14 TASS—U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz spoke at a press conference here today after signing agreements on a political settlement of the Afghanistan-related situation. He welcomed the decisions of the Soviet leadership that had promoted the reaching of those agreements.

He pointed out that the strict meeting of the obligations contained in the documents signed today would make a substantial contribution to the improvement of the atmosphere of Soviet-American relations and to the settlement of other regional conflicts.

The U.S. secretary of state expressed high appreciation of the active participation of the U.N. and personally of Diego Cordovez, personal representative of the U.N. secretary general, in the working out of the Geneva accords.

Shevardnadze Press Conference

PM150905 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 88 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "E.A. Shevardnadze Press Conference"]

[Text] A press conference has been held at the Soviet permanent mission in Geneva by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, who said:

Ladies and gentlemen.

Representatives of the Republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America today affixed their signatures to agreements on a political settlement regarding Afghanistan.

The presence of the U.N. secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, and his personal envoy, Mr. Diego Cordovez, at the ceremony reflected not only their role in attaining the long-sought goal, but also the immense possibilities of the United Nations in settling regional and other conflicts.

But even given all their tireless and purposeful peacemaking activities, today's result would have been impossible without the wisdom, good will and readiness for a sensible compromise in the supreme interest of peace and security, which has been demonstrated by the sides.

This result has been predetermined by my country's policy of solving acute international problems exceptionally by political means, which has been proclaimed by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The "Afghan knot" can be untied by dint of what is nowadays the most efficient tool, which we call new political thinking.

Two dates have, in our view, been of utterly exceptional significance in the calendar of the Geneva negotiations on Afghanistan. One was 8 February 1988, when Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow and President Najibullah in Kabul issued statements that led the talks to the level of practical solutions. The other was 7 April 1988, when in Tashkent the leaders of the two friendly countries ushered in a new phase in the relationship of friendship and good-neighborliness between the Soviet and Afghan peoples, which dates back to dozens of years ago.

The pivotal idea of the new phase is every kind of support for the success of the national reconciliation policy in every field essential to Afghanistan—be it aid with creating satisfactory conditions for the return of refugees or help with economic rehabilitation and socioeconomic development in Afghanistan.

Speaking of the national reconciliation policy, which is by right associated with President Najibullah, we are convinced that it is this policy that has lent a strong impetus to the Geneva process. No outside actions can promise any worthy result if not backed up with adequate efforts inside the country. The President's course for national accord has definitely contributed to the success of the talks.

It has been facilitated, especially at the finishing stretch, by the compromise decisions of the sides, the realistic position of the Pakistani leaders and their readiness to take account of the opinions of the whole Afghan people. This approach, just as, of course, unfailing compliance by Pakistan with the signed agreements, will furnish a sound basis for improving Soviet-Pakistani relations.

The Soviet Union does justice to the United States consent to become a guarantor of the Geneva accords together with it.

We hail the signature of the Geneva agreements because they put an end to outside interference in the affairs of Afghanistan and give the Afghan people a possibility to achieve peace and accord in their land.

The sides—Afghanistan and Pakistan—today made legal commitments in treaty form, which exclude interference in any form in each other's affairs.

They pledged:

—Not to make their territories available for hostile actions against the other side,

—To refrain from any form of intervention, overt or covert, and from any act of military, political or economic interference,

—To refrain from assistance, encouragement or support for any insurgent or separatist activity,

—Not to allow the training, outfitting, funding and recruitment of mercenaries of any origins in their territories,

—To refrain from concluding any agreements or accords with other states, which would be aimed at intervention or interference in the domestic or external affairs of the other side,

—Not to allow any aid to, use of or tolerance to terrorist groups, saboteurs or wreckers acting against the other side.

Please pay attention to this: The entire spectrum of possible activities and actions to meddle in the affairs of Afghanistan has finally been all blocked.

This is precisely what has been needed for the Afghan people to be able to determine its destiny itself. Now it will get down to this and will be able to do away with the war and achieve peace in its land on the basis of national reconciliation and the unity of all the patriotic forces.

Another most acute problem, that of refugees, is being solved as well. They will have the possibility to return to their fatherland as equal citizens of Afghanistan. Assistance with repatriating refugees will be given by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. Mixed commissions to deal with issues connected with their return will also be formed.

In keeping with the agreements signed today, special U.N. personnel will investigate any violation of any commitment by the sides.

So a mechanism is being established also for verification, which adds to the conviction that the agreements will be observed.

Now that they have been signed and acquired the force of international legal instruments, the responsibility of the sides has grown dramatically. It is only irresponsible people that can ignore, reject or violate norms and principles of the settlement.

The Geneva agreements are a touchstone testing the sincerity of intentions with regard to Afghanistan. Those who really wish peace for the Afghan people and seek sincerely to help it heal its wounds will back these accords.

After not so rare visits to Kabul and conversations with representatives of most diverse social currents in that country, I have become convinced that they can and want to get into the single mainstream of a revived, neutral and non-aligned Afghanistan. This goal, as we see it, is above all pretensions and ambitions and above ideological irreconcilability or claims to power.

A new counting out of time began in Geneva today. It has begun not only for Afghanistan and Pakistan. The Geneva agreements have been unanimously supported by the Soviet people and we have signed them with its mandate in hand.

But this does not exhaust our contribution to the settlement. It is with these thoughts that we are returning home.

E.A. Shevardnadze then answered journalists' questions.

Question: Some political figures in the West as well as mass media assert that the signing of the Geneva accords does not mean an end to the armed struggle in Afghanistan, and that the opposition will continue its struggle, getting as it does its weapons from the USA.

What is the rationale behind this propagandist campaign?

Answer: I would answer your question as follows: Those who are opposed to the Geneva accords, to the implementation of the principles laid down in these documents, are in essence opposed to peace in the long-suffering Afghan land.

These people have their self-seeking interests.

This is one aspect of the matter.

The other is: I think it must be stressed that the accords signed today by the representatives of four states in the presence of the U.N. secretary general and his personal envoy, create all the necessary conditions for the final political settlement of the Afghan problem. It goes without saying that this will be so only if the principles which are proclaimed by these accords will be honestly complied with. And we hope that the accords will be observed, for they provide for the creation of a single and coherent system of control through the U.N. framework.

Question: I recollect that you said this at the press conference in Washington: If the United States insists on the continuation of arms shipments to its "friends", then it cannot be a guarantor in the implementation of the accords that are to be signed. You have also stated that the Soviet Union insists on its right to continue deliveries of arms to the lawful government of Afghanistan in accordance with the existing treaty.

How was this incongruity between the then and the present positions of the two sides resolved?

Answer: I would ask you to read very attentively the documents signed today. They do not refer specifically to the deliveries of arms.

Both before and today we hold the same position: cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan is pursued on a legal basis, for it rests on a corresponding contractual and legal basis. The United States of America has no such contractual base. There is no legal foundation for the shipments of arms to the formations and groupings waging an armed struggle against the lawful government of Afghanistan.

In spite of all this, we have still decided to sign the Geneva accords, because if the parties—I have in mind Afghanistan and Pakistan—honestly abide by their commitments, then the political settlement and the restoration of peace in Afghanistan will become a realistic thing.

I will tell you frankly: the arms shipments by the United States to groupings waging a struggle against the lawful Afghan Government will not have a decisive influence—on condition, naturally, that Afghanistan and Pakistan observe all the principles laid down in the Geneva accords.

Question: Can one expect that following the signing of the accords the Soviet Union will support Shultz's plan for the Middle East? Are there chances for joint Soviet-American actions and efforts in the Middle Eastern direction?

Answer: These are different questions. But I agree with you, in that the signing of the Geneva accords stimulates the positive processes in terms of settlement of regional conflicts, including the problem of the Middle East. Here the United States of America, the Arab states, the Palestine Liberation Organization and other countries are working very actively. I don't think it will be an exaggeration to say that prospects which are not bad are now opening for the settlement of the Middle East problem—the most intractable and painful problem among all the regional problems. This potential has to be utilised.

In a certain while, there will be a meeting with the U.S. secretary of state in our country, with whom we shall discuss some topical issues, including also the questions of the Middle East settlement.

Question: Have you any plans for the near future to visit countries of the Middle East?

Answer: I have my secrets. I don't want to divulge them. However, if this may be helpful, I am ready to.

Question: How are the generals of the Soviet Army reacting to the fact that for the first time in history they have lost a war?

Answer: I think that your question is not in the spirit of the Geneva Accords at all. The Soviet generals do not think that they have lost the war. The question has never been put that way.

I have already said that at present, the conditions and all the indispensable legal foundations have been created for an end to the interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. Correspondingly, conditions have also been created for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. There is no defeat here.

Question: Is not the Soviet Union worried about the situation in Central America? Are you going to raise this issue in your conversation with Secretary of State Shultz?

Answer: During every meeting that we have, we raise the question of Central America. We raise it at all levels: at the level of the leaders of our nations, and at the level of ministers, and at the level of experts. The question of Central America is always at the center of our attention.

We welcome the positive tendency that has sprung up here lately, and hope that a decision will be taken on Central America as well, which will ensure the necessary conditions for the peaceful development of Nicaragua and of other countries.

Question: What lessons will the Soviet leadership draw from the Afghan experience and how will these lessons influence Soviet foreign policy.

Answer: In principle I have answered your question in my statement.

The Geneva accords, the documents signed today—these are the results of the new political thinking. Each people must decide their own destiny themselves. The Afghan people also have this right. We have helped them in difficult times. Now, when real guarantees of non-interference have appeared, the Soviet troops are to leave Afghanistan. They are leaving with a sense of a duty fulfilled.

Question: If all the parties abide by the agreement on Afghanistan, if nobody tries to get into Afghanistan, then, still, what is to be done about the five million refugees who wish to return to Afghanistan? My question is this: When will the present government of Afghanistan allow the United Nations organization to send its representatives there? When will it permit representatives of mass media to go into Afghanistan in order to see for themselves the state of affairs on the spot? When will this happen—tomorrow, on May 15, or when else?

Answer: I would ask you once again to study attentively the documents signed today. In them you will find the answer to your question. They provide for all the necessary conditions for an unobstructed return of the refugees to their homeland. As regards the visting of Afghanistan by representatives of the United Nations Organization, of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and of other agencies, the Afghan Government has never erected any obstacle in their way. Neither is it erecting them now when—I stress—totally new, favorable conditions have arisen for the return of the refugees—under the supervision of the United Nations organization.

Question: Has the United States undertaken a commitment to discontinue arms shipments to the Afghan mujahidin? And the second question: what role has the concept of the so-called positive symmetry played in fostering a positive mutual understanding?

Answer: I have already said that the question of arms supplies is not mentioned in the Geneva documents. Neither do they say anything about the so-called symmetry in arms shipments.

Question: What would be the reaction of the Soviet Union if the Americans said that, should the need arise, they are going to continue the supplies of arms to the mujahidin? If the United States began to airlift arms directly to the Afghan rebels?

Answer: I told the secretary of state honestly and openly that the United States has no legal foundations for supplying arms to the forces waging a struggle against a lawful government.

Of course, if they will supply them with arms, this will complicate the matter of a political settlement.

Question: Can I ask you a geographical question? Does the withdrawal of the Soviet troops also extend to the Vakhan Valley which links Afghanistan with China?

Answer: It covers the entire territory of Afghanistan.

Question: You spoke of the new thinking. Today one can read even in the Soviet press statements to the effect that the introduction of Soviet troops into Afghanistan was a mistake. Among other things, one such statement has been made by a prominent Soviet academician. What does the new Soviet leadership think about this?

Answer: I do not know which academician has expressed such an assessment. I do not think he said that. The Soviet troops came to Afghanistan at the request of the lawful government of Afghanistan in difficult days for that country, relying on a corresponding juridical and legal basis.

Question: The day before yesterday a group of Italian parliamentarians meeting in Moscow with your first deputy, Mr. Vorontsov, was told that 50 thousand Soviet soldiers and officers would be withdrawn from Afghanistan during the first five months following the entry of the accords into force. Can you confirm this figure? Does it square with the agreement to the effect that 50 percent of soldiers and officers will be withdrawn during the first three months?

Answer: I am returning to Moscow today and there I will clarify precisely whether the first deputy foreign minister of the USSR put it that way. I repeat, however, what is widely known: We have committed ourselves to withdrawing half of our troops from Afghanistan during the first three months from the day of the start of the withdrawal, namely, from May 15, 1988. How much that would be—whether 50 thousand or 42 thousand—this will become known in the process of the withdrawal.

Thank you all for your attention. All the best to you.

Shevardnadze Speaks With Shultz

LD141941 Moscow TASS in English 1920 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, in their meeting here today, analysed the state of affairs at the talks on nuclear and space arms and specified a circle of issues that required prime attention and solution in order to draft an agreement on the reduction of strategic offensive arms in conditions of observing the ABM Treaty.

Positively assessing the significance of the Afghan settlement for Soviet-American cooperation in resolving other regional problems, the ministers exchanged views on the situation in the Middle East, in the Horn of Africa and some other parts of the world.

They considered options of actions with the use of U.N. possibilities for ending the Iran-Iraq war.

The sides agreed to discuss in greater detail these and other questions during their next meeting in Moscow where the secretary of state will arrive on April 21.

Shevardnadze Meets With UN Leader

LD141934 Moscow TASS in English 1856 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva april 14 TASS—Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met with the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar here today.

The role of the U.N. secretary general and of his personal envoy Diego Cordovez in bringing about a political settlement around Afghanistan received a high appreciation from the Soviet side. The conclusion of the Geneva accords is far from being an event of local importance. It attests to the immense potential possibilities of the United Nations and will be a powerful stimulus for settling other regional conflicts, will help to find optimal solutions to crisis situations in other regions as well, including that in Central America.

The United Nations secretary general expressed his appreciation to Mikhail Gorbachev and the Soviet leadership for their contribution to the settlement of the Afghan problem, which, as Javier Perez de Cuellar stressed, would have been impossible without the statesmanship and political will that have been manifested.

From the moment of the signing of the accords it is the general obligation of all to vigorously and comprehensively contribute to their fullest and most honest observance; the United Nations Organization is prepared to and is already adopting measures for the practical realisation of the Geneva accords.

During the conversation the two also examined issues connected with the Iran-Iraq war, and the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598. Javier Perez de Cuellar informed Eduard Shevardnadze about the outcome of his recent mission to Iran and Iraq, and pointed out certain positive changes in positions of the sides on the question of the search for possible ways to end the conflict.

Noting the similarity of views on a number of major aspects of the settlement of the conflict, the Soviet foreign minister presented in this connection concrete proposals of the Soviet leadership.

The participants in the conversation touched on the state of affairs in the Middle East and agreed to continue opinion exchanges on this problem.

Shevardnadze Meetings Reviewed

LD142206 Moscow TASS in English 2112 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—The ceremony of signing of the Geneva documents on the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan took place in Geneva's Palace of Nations today.

The documents include the bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the principles of mutual relations and, among other things, on non-interference and on renunciation of intervention; the declaration on international guarantees; the bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the voluntary return of refugees; and the agreement on the interrelation for the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan.

In the presence of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his personal representative Diego Cordovez, the minister for foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan 'Abdul Wakil and the State Minister for foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Zain Noorani signed the agreement on the principles of mutual relations and, among other things, on non-interference and on renunciation of intervention, as well as the agreement on the voluntary return of refugees and the agreement on the interrelation for the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan.

The member of the Politburo of the CPSU CC, the Minister of foreign affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Eduard Shevardnadze and the Secretary of State of the United States of America George Shultz signed the Declaration on International Guarantees and the Agreement on the Interrelation for the Settlement of the Situation Relating to Afghanistan.

The completion of the diplomatic process connected with the political settlement around Afghanistan, creates favourable prerequisites for the headway in the policy of national reconciliation in that country, for setting in place a broad inter-Afghan dialogue with the aim of ending the bloodshed and establishing peace on Afghan soil.

The achievement of the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan is also an important breakthrough in the matter of de-blocking of regional conflicts, a concrete manifestation of the new thinking in world politics.

The act of the signing of the agreements caused immense interest on the part of the Swiss and world press.

On the same day Eduard Shevardnadze met with the Minister for foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan 'Abdul Wakil.

In their conversation they took stock of the Geneva diplomatic process and expressed a mutual satisfaction with the signing of the agreement. It was noted that the Geneva success was in large measure the result of persistent and consistent efforts by the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, a flexible and constructive approach by the Soviet and Afghan sides to clearing the obstacles which stood in the way of the completion of the negotiations.

Prospects were discussed for a further development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Afghanistan in the new conditions connected with the agreements reached at Geneva. In this context the special importance was stressed of the joint Soviet-Afghan statement adopted in Tashkent.

The ministers stated that as the policy of national reconciliation proceeds forward in Afghanistan, there will move to the forefront the task of the development and broadening of the inter-Afghan dialogue, the achievement of general national agreement, the formation of executive and legislative bodies of the country on a representative basis.

The view that all the internal aspects of the afghan settlement can and must be solved only by the Afghan people themselves was reaffirmed.

Some of the international issues have also been considered.

The conversation was held in a friendly and comradely atmosphere.

Eduard Shevardnadze also met with the State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan Zain Noorani.

During the conversation they expressed satisfaction with the completion of the working out of the agreements which are the result of many years of efforts by the parties concerned with the a view to establishing a lasting peace in South and South-West Asia, and liquidating a complex regional military-political conflict.

It was noted that the completion of the Geneva process opens up good prospects for an early return of the Afghan refugees to their homeland. Eduard Shevardnadze emphasized the need for the complete and strict observance of the provisions of the Geneva accords by all parties.

During the examination of the questions of bilateral relations the sides agreed that the USSR and Pakistan have good opportunities for developing their relations in the political and other fields

A meeting took place between Eduard Shevardnadze and Rene Felber, Switzerland's chief of department for foreign affairs. In a businesslike and good-will atmosphere the heads of the diplomatic departments of the two countries exchanged opinions on matters of bilateral relations, the development of the process of European security and cooperation, and the role of neutral and nonaligned states in this process. The sides spoke out in favour of continuation of the efforts aimed at achieving limitations and reductions of armaments, above all nuclear. On the Soviet side, appreciation was expressed to the Federal Government of Switzerland for its assistance in matters connected with the political settlement around Afghanistan.

For his part, Rene Felber praised the efforts of the Soviet Union in the achievement of the accords on Afghanistan. Ways to end other regional conflicts, in particular those in the Middle East, were discussed.

The participants in the meeting were unanimous that the restructuring of the economic mechanism in the USSR creates more favourable conditions for the development of foreign economic and commercial ties, including those between the USSR and Switzerland.

Rene Felber confirmed the invitation to Eduard Shevardnadze to pay an official visit to Switzerland.

Eduard Shevardnadze also met with the U.N. secretary general Javier Perez de Cuellar. The Soviet side expressed a high appreciation for the role of the U.N. secretary general and his personal envoy Diego Cordovez in achieving the political settlement around Afghanistan. The conclusion of the Geneva accords is far from being a local event. It attests to the tremendous potential possibilities of the United Nations and will impart a strong impetus to the settlement of other regional conflicts, will also help to find the most optimal solutions for ending crisis situations in other regions, including Central America.

The U.N. secretary general expressed his appreciation for Mikhail Gorbachev for his contribution in the settlement of the Afghan problem, which, as Javier Perez de Cuellar emphasized, would not have been possible without the statesmanship and political will shown by the Soviet leadership.

From the moment of the signing of the accords it becomes the common duty of all to vigorously and comprehensively assist in their most complete and honest observance; the United Nations is prepared to, and is already taking steps for, the practical realisation of the Geneva Accords.

During the conversation the participants examined issues connected with the Iran-Iraq war, and with the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. Javier Perez de Cuellar informed Eduard Shevardnadze about the results of his recent mission to Iran and Iraq and pointed out certain positive changes in the positions of the sides in connection with the search for possible ways of ending the conflict. Noting the similarity of views on a number of major aspects of the settlement of the conflict, the minister for foreign affairs of the USSR outlined, in this connection, concrete proposals of the Soviet leadership.

The participants in the conversation touched upon the state of affairs in the Middle East and agreed to continue the exchange of opinions on this problem.

Eduard Shevardnadze also met with the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

They carried out a comparative analysis of the state of affairs at the negotiations on nuclear and space weapons, specified the range of problems which require priority attention and solution in order to prepare an agreement on reducing the strategic offensive weapons in the conditions of the observance of the ABM Treaty.

Assessing positively the significance of the Afghan settlement for the Soviet-American interaction in tackling other regional problems, the ministers exchanged opinions on the situation in the Middle East, in the Horn of Africa and in some other regions of the world.

They considered variants of possible actions, involving the utilisation of the possibilities of the United Nations, with the view to ending the Iran-Iraq war. It was agreed that these and other questions would be discussed in greater detail during the regular meeting of the two ministers in Moscow where the secretary of state will arrive on April 21.

Eduard Shevardnadze left Geneva for Moscow on the same day.

He was seen off at the airport by the Soviet ambassador to Switzerland Zoya Novozhilova, the Soviet chief delegate to the U.N. and other international organizations at Geneva, Yevgeniy Makeyev and heads of a number of Soviet delegations.

Shevardnadze Departs Geneva

LD141924 Moscow TASS in English 1859 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva April 14 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, left Geneva for Moscow today.

He was seen off at the airport by the Soviet ambassador to Switzerland, Zoya Novozhilova, the permanent representative of the USSR to the U.N. office and other international organisations in Geneva, Yevgeniy Makeyev, and the heads of several Soviet delegations.

Shevardnadze Arrives Home

LD142101 Moscow TASS in English 2052 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, returned to Moscow from Geneva today. He visited Switzerland in connection with the signing of agreements on a political settlement of the Afghanistan-related situation.

At the airport he was welcomed by Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as well as other officials. The welcoming party included Francis Pianca, ambassador of Switzerland to the USSR.

Wakil Answers Questions

LD142116 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Kabul April 14 TASS—Afghanistan's Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil, now in Geneva, answered by telephone questions from Afghan journalists. He said, among other things, that the presence of U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar at the signing of the Geneva agreements on settlement of the Afghanistan situation testified to the world community's profound attention to solution of any regional conflicts through peaceful means. As to the presence of the Soviet and American delegations, it should be stated that these countries, who have undertaken to be the guarantors, will comply with the provisions of the Geneva documents on Afghanistan's and Pakistan's mutual non-interference into each other's internal affairs. Our relations with Pakistan will be based, as before, on the principles of mutual respect, he said.

Wakil Stops Over in Moscow

LD151342 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil of the Republic of Afghanistan arrived in Moscow today on his way back to Kabul from Geneva after the signature of accords on a political settlement relating to Afghanistan.

Najibullah Praises Accords

LD142114 Moscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Kabul April 14 TASS—"The day has come to which the much-suffering people of Afghanistan have looked forward for so long, to which all the honest, peace-minded people of the world have looked forward", says a statement of President Najibullah of the Republic of Afghanistan. "I have just received a message to the effect that in Geneva representatives of Afghanistan and Pakistan have signed agreements that are bringing peace to our land tormented by the war. They are putting an end to the undeclared war against Afghanistan, are opening the way home to refugees and creating possibilities for the return home of a limited contingent of Soviet troops. The Soviet Union and the United States have pledged to guarantee the fulfillment of the agreements.

"A new page has been opened in the history of our nation. April 14 will go down in our history as one of the happiest and most joyful feasts which the people will call the peace day.

"The road to it was difficult and complicated. However, we had a noble and great goal—peace for our nation, and we have done our utmost to attain it. The Geneva agreements are a victory of the national reconciliation policy, the result of efforts of many countries of the world community.

"The U.N. secretary general and his personal representative Diego Cordovez contributed a great deal to their success. The Afghan people express their heartfelt gratitude to them.

"We are grateful to the Government of Pakistan for political realism displayed by it and for its readiness for compromises which permitted to bring the talks to a successful end.

"We appreciate the role played by the U.S. in the completion of a political settlement of the Afghanistan-related situation and express satisfaction over the U.S. consent to be a co-guarantor of the Geneva agreements.

"We point out with special gratitude the role played by the Soviet Union in bringing back to normal the situation around Afghanistan. We shall never forget the selfless assistance of our friend and ally that it rendered to the Afghan people in the grimmest hour in the whole of their history. Understanding on the part of the Soviet Union and its support for our proposals and initiatives brought in the final end a long process of the Geneva talks to the present positive outcome.

"The Geneva agreements will enable our compatriots who are in exile to return home. Under the Geneva agreements no one will have the right to hinder the realization of this legitimate intention.

"A favourable opportunity is opening up before countries of our region to turn it into a zone of peace and trust. We shall continue to work for the restoration of normal relations with our neighbours. We harbour the kindest feelings for the peoples of Iran and Pakistan, we want to maintain relations of friendship and cooperation with them and hope to meet equal understanding on their part.

"We are pinning our hopes on the development and deepening of multilateral contacts with friendly India, socialist China and the Islamic world.

"Afghanistan has been the first to make a step of historic importance. The Geneva agreements pave the way to peace and cooperation not only in our region. A political settlement of the Afghanistan-related situation can serve as a good example for the settlement of conflicts in other regions, can become a model of a peaceful settlement of conflict situations. It will make a favourable impact on the world situation in general.

"Today we concentrate our thoughts and aspirations on the future, on Afghanistan's morrow. We see Afghanistan as a free, independent, neutral and non-aligned country maintaining friendly relations with all the neighbours and all the nations of the world. Such is the will of our people, which we shall put into effect resolutely and consistently.

"We urge all the honest Afghan people, all true patriots to unite for the sake of attaining those great and noble goals. The problems of Afghanistan will be resolved by the Afghan people and them alone. We sincerely hope that our objectives, our hopes for the future will be met with understanding and support by peoples of the world".

Comment on Accords, Rebels

PM151217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 88 Second Edition pp1,7

[Special correspondent V. Bolshakov report: "'Geneva Package' Signed"]

[Excerpt] Geneva, 14 Apr—[Passage omitted] An accord has been reached between Pakistan and Afghanistan on the principles of their relations; on noninterference and an end to intervention; on international guarantees; on the voluntary return of refugees.

E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz have signed the Declaration on International Guarantees and an agreement on interrelationships for a settlement of the situation concerning Afghanistan. A memorandum of understanding has been approved. The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan will begin 15 May. The text runs to six pages in English, slightly more in Russian, Pashto, and Urdu. This is a line in history and a landmark in the present day. The act accomplished in Geneva is comparable to the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles in terms of its international implications.

The Geneva agreements on Afghanistan will be inscribed in the history of the United Nations in letters of gold, so to speak. And not only because they have opened the way to ending one of the most serious and agonizing conflicts of the present day, which has taken great diplomatic skill to settle. But also because, for the United Nations, this is an example of resolving a regional conflict situation. Unfortunately, there are still a considerable number of such conflicts left in the world. The Western press has drawn attention to precisely this aspect in today's ceremony. LE MONDE published an article yesterday, for example, which opened with some words spoken by M.S. Gorbachev in his Statement of 8 February this year: "When the Afghan knot is unraveled, this will have a most profound impact on other regional conflicts."

Today's Geneva newspapers are publishing reports from Afghanistan on armed opposition detachments' renewal of fighting in the Qandahar region. The "Alliance of Seven" which controls these detachments from Peshawar has said that it does not recognize the Geneva agreements and has no intention at present of laying down its arms. So what are the Peshawar "Seven" hoping for? They are pinning considerable hopes on those circles in the United States which managed to add fuel to the fire of the conflict literally immediately after the signing of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan. I am talking about the statement circulated in Washington and Geneva which says that the signing of the Geneva agreements does not mean that the United States recognizes the government in Kabul. Interpreting the "Geneva package" in its own way, the United States says that it intends to continue to give aid to the Peshawar "Seven." But how does this tally with the guarantees which Washington pledged today in the Council Hall? Or with U.S. promises to contribute to a settlement of the conflict in every way?

Noninterference in Afghanistan's internal affairs must be a real display of responsibility for a settlement of the situation surrounding this country—a responsibility which has increased enormously precisely now, when the Geneva agreements have been signed.

The Afghan Government is ready for dialogue with the opposition and prepared to do everything it can to ensure that the Afghanistan of the future becomes a peaceful, nonaligned, neutral state with a multiparty political system and structurally diverse economy. If the "Seven" do not wish to take part in this process and will not heed the voice of reason, ultimately the people of Afghanistan will decide their future without them. The overwhelming majority of Afghans are tired of the bloodshed and want peace. This will determine their future.

...The delegations leave the Council Hall by the doors through which they came. To the right of the window, we are watched by one of the famous paintings by the Spanish artist Jose Maria Sert with which this hall is decorated: A woman and her child are standing on the barrels of two enormous cannons. The young mother lifts her child to the sun as a symbol of new generations without war, hatred, and bloodshed. We still have a long way to go to reach this ideal. But an important step has been taken toward it in Geneva today, because, despite its being a local conflict, the war in Afghanistan has left its mark on all world politics.

Further Commentary on Events

OW150206 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 14 Apr 88

[(Baogodin) commentary]

[Text] A long-awaited event took place in Geneva 14 April; that is, the signing of accords on settling the situation surrounding Afghanistan through political means. Afghan Foreign Minister Wakil and his Pakistani counterpart Noorani signed bilateral agreements on the principles governing mutual relations and the return of refugees, while Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz signed a document on international guarantees. In this regard, our station commentator (Baogodin) writes the following:

Gone are 6 years of difficult negotiations under the mediation of the United Nations. We may as well recall a recent event. At that time, differences between the two sides were so serious that some people even regarded it as meaningless to continue the negotiations. However, had they been abandoned, the Afghan people would still be shedding their blood, and thus wither the hopes to eliminate one of the most dangerous sources of tension.

Today I am convinced that people are entitled to believe that reason and realism, which ultimately embody the new political ideas, are more powerful than contradictions which were regarded as irreconcilable. Many prominent statesmen and influential mass media have attributed the recent positive changes occurring in the Geneva negotiations to the constructive steps taken by Moscow and Kabul, such as the decision to withdraw Soviet troops from Afghanistan beginning 15 May and to be completed within 9 months, and the proposal by the Soviet and Afghan leaders, Gorbachev and Najibullah, to sign the Geneva accords as soon as possible.

Nevertheless, it was obvious that the Soviet Union and Afghanistan alone could not bring about success of the negotiations. The accords signed today are the results of concerted efforts by all parties taking part in the settlement. According to Comrade Gorbachev's assessment, the events taking place in Geneva today have an impact as strong as that of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on intermediate nuclear forces on the world situation. The Soviet leader said: We hope that the signing of the Geneva accords on the Afghan question will facilitate the process of resolving regional conflicts. Naturally much remains to be done to restore peace and national harmony on the devastated soil of Afghanistan.

However, experience in drafting the Geneva accords shows that reason and political consciousness can prevail upon most complicated obstacles. Therefore, people can expect that the Afghan people will be able to remove all [words indistinct] and resolve the problem of national reconciliation without foreign intervention.

Najibullah Speaks on Elections, Geneva Accords

Address to Nation

LD142047 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Kabul April 14 TASS—The BAKHTAR news agency has issued the text of the T.V. and radio address, which has been made by the President of the Republic of Afghanistan Najibullah to the citizens of the republic on the occasion of the completion of elections to the National Council (parliament) of the country.

The elections have been a major historical event in the life of Afghanistan, the address says. Representatives of all strata of society participated in the elections which were held in an atmosphere of democracy, public openness and freedom. Servicemen, youth and women went to the polls for the first time. It is also noteworthy that the population of the areas, which are under control of the opposition, also took an active part in the elections. The meeting in Tashkent and the joint Soviet-Afghan statement, which followed it, promoted the success of the elections, the president said.

Representatives of the Afghan and Pakistani delegations have signed in Geneva today the agreements which bring us peace and put an end to the undeclared war, make it possible for the refugees to return to their homes and for the Soviet troops to return to their home country.

The path from the beginning of the negotiations to their today's outcome was difficult and complicated. But we had a noble and great goal—peace for our people, and we did the utmost to attain the goal. The Geneva agreements signify victory of the policy of national reconciliation, the result of the efforts of many countries of the world community. The Soviet Union and the United States undertook the obligation to guarantee compliance with the agreements. April 14 turned a new page in our country's history. The people of Afghanistan call April 14 the day of peace.

Already now we can get a glimpse of the future. We see Afghanistan a free, independent, neutral and non-aligned country, maintaining the relations of friendship with its neighbours, Najibullah said.

Substantial organisational work preceded the successful holding of the elections. Legality was fully observed, ancient traditions of our people, the requirements of Islam were taken into account. Laborious propaganda and explanatory, work was carried out. According to preliminary estimates, 1,547,000 people cast their votes for the candidates to the deputies of the Volosi Jirgah and the Senate. This historic event gives me the right to say that the elections were a truly popular event, Najibullah stressed.

Unfortunately, elections could not be held in some areas for objective reasons. We repeatedly proposed that the opposition should nominate their candidates for the elections. There is still time to do so, therefore we hope that the countrymen will avail themselves of the opportunity.

But the festive days for our people were not without sacrifices, the president said. The enemies tried in every way to thwart the elections. They intimidated the people, demanded that they should not go to the polls, fired at dwelling quarters and polling stations. But our people courageously opposed the attempts of reactionaries to foil the elections. Therefore, neither we nor our future generation will forget those who stood on guard of the future of the country. We shall ever keep the memory of them in our hearts, President Najibullah said in conclusion.

Stresses Self-Determination

LD141332 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Kabul April 14 TASS—The Afghan people resolutely stand out against the fratricidal war and actively participate in implementing the national reconciliation policy leading to establishment of peace and quietude in the country, said President Najibullah of the Afghan Republic. Speaking in Kabul today at a ceremony of opening a university on studies and research of Islamic sciences, he pointed out that the course of the Afghan Government for national reconciliation ensued from the tasks and aims of the April revolutuon whose 10th anniversary Afghans were marking now. "We see our supreme goal in gaining peace and happiness for every Afghan, in bringing home our countrymen and in creating such a situation under which the Afghan people would live in friendship and concord with peoples of other countries," noted the president.

"Our ceremony is taking place on historic days filled with major events," Najibullah said further on. "I have in mind our meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev in Tashkent, the successful course of the Geneva talks and the country-wide elections to the National Council. Such elections are held in our country for the first time. Only the Afghan people will decide what the Afghan state will be like and what the Afghan Government will be like. Small doubt that we shall build a non-aligned, sovereign and independent Afghanistan and will form a nationwide coalition government."

Dealing at length with the role of religion in the life of present-day Afghan society, Najibullah pointed out that the very fact of opening the Islamic university spoke of attention given to Islam by the country's leadership. Religious leaders, he said in part, are members of the Revolutionary Council, province governors, heads of counties and districts. These days many of them are slated as candidates for the National Council.

The ceremony was attended by Afghan Prime Minister Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, prominent political, public and religious leaders of the country.

Afghan Rebel Policies, Divisions Discussed

PM131157 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Apr 88 Second Edition p3

[Own correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Oliynik "Dispatch From Afghanistan": "Contrary to the People's Aspirations"]

[Text] Before leaving Delhi for Kabul, Qawsuddin, chairman of the "Islamic Alliance of the Mujahidin of Afghanistan," sent letters on his decision to end the fratricidal war and return home to his direct leaders in Peshawar and also to Pakistani President Ziaul Haq. Correspondents who met the leader of the Islamic Alliance of the Mujahidin of Afghanistan and his many followers at Kabul airport were briefed on these messages. "Guided by the interests of establishing peace in our country," one of these messages reads, "our tripartite alliance in Delhi has taken the decision to disband. Talks on forming a coalition government will thereby continue in our own country...."

This is how Malik Sharif Afshari, chairman of the "Society of Freedom Fighters," who has returned from Delhi, explained the aim of his return home at a press conference in Kabul. He said:

"I and like-minded people have returned home because we are convinced that President Najibullah is sincere in his intention to carry the national reconciliation policy through. Like all our people, the president is anxious for peace in our country. The millions of refugees also want this. The only thing preventing my compatriots' return home is the opposition of the Pakistani and Iranian authorities. Everyone is very impatient to see the Geneva agreements signed so that they can return home without delay. The refugees will do this whatever government there is in Kabul. The main condition is peace in the long-suffering land of Afghanistan."

This prominent opposition figure was asked many questions at the press conference. This was no accident. It is important to establish Afshari's opinion on the most "painful" aspects of the situation in Afghanistan.

"Afghanistan's future lies in national reconciliation," M. Afshari emphasized. "It is determined and will continue to be determined not so much by party leaders as by the people themselves, who are incredibly tired of the privations of war. All honest patriots must now pool their efforts for the sake of a happy future Afghanistan. And if the leaders of the 'Alliance of Seven' do not understand this, they will find themselves on their own."

I should point out in this connection that, despite numerous statements on total mutual understanding, contradictions within the alliance have become aggravated to the extreme. The leaders and their patrons in the United States and Pakistan are making enormous efforts to save it from discord. For example, an emergency conference of the leaders of the "seven" was held in March and was attended by General Ziaul Haq himself. In his speech he called for unity among all opposition forces and the stepping up of actions by armed formations and said that "the opposition will receive aid only if it seizes power within 3 months, if only initially in some regions of Afghanistan." The proposal to seize power in Kunar Province and Khost District was put forward at this conference. A special bureau headed by Ahmad Shaykh has been set up in the Pakistani town of Jalalzai to coordinate combat operations.

The U.S. administration makes its own contribution to uniting the Afghan resistance movement. As is well known, Washington recently decided to send a new consignment of arms worth 300 million dollars to antigovernment formations via Pakistan. The consignment includes new antitank guns and "surface to surface" missiles.

While the leaders of the Peshawar opposition are making feverish efforts to strengthen the "Alliance of Seven" with the help of foreign "friends," rank and file members of the armed formations are also not sitting idle. Explosions roar in the most diverse provinces of Afghanistan. It is during these bitter engagements that many detachments of the "fighters for the faith" belonging to various Muslim opposition parties reveal their true attitudes. For example, for a week now there have been armed clashes between detachments of Sagir (Islamic Party of Afghanistan) and Ghulam Yahya (Islamic Society of Afghanistan) in the Guzar District of Herat Province. Heavy weapons are being used in the combat operations. And in the Khuzhani District of Nangarhar Province, a group belonging to the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan destroyed a detachment led by the Islamic Party of Afghanistan.

All honest people in Afghanistan now cannot fail to compare the hypocritical policy of the "Peshawar Seven," which is based on sharp contradictions, with the clear, peace-loving policy of national reconciliation pursued by Kabul. The leaders of the "Alliance of Seven" are continuing a policy that has nothing in common with the aspirations of the Afghan people. The continuation of the undeclared war only increases the grief and suffering of all those who want peace and calm for their country.

Afghan Link to Pakistani Blast Denied

PM141821 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 88 Morning Edition p 4

[N. Paklin dispatch: "Pakistan: Resignation Demanded"]

[Text] Delhi—The ammunition dump explosion on the outskirts of Islamabad has caused reverberations in political circles.

A number of party leaders have demanded the resignation of Pakistani President General Ziaul Haq and the prime minister. They are accused of "ineffectiveness in protecting human lives." Many opposition party leaders in the National Assembly have also proposed that the national defense minister resign. Former Pakistani Army General Ali Khan described the siting of the ammunition dump in the immediate vicinity of densely populated urban areas as "a crime of negligence."

In an attempt to shift the responsibility, a rumor concerning the alleged involvement of "agents of the Afghan regime trained in the Soviet Union" has been circulated in Islamabad.

This story has been picked up by American newspapers, including THE WASHINGTON POST, citing Pakistani sources. In conversation with your correspondent, an Indian diplomat who asked not to be named put forward the thesis that antigovernment Afghan organizations based in Pakistan were involved in the explosion. "It cannot be ruled out that they committed this bloody crime in a last-minute attempt to frustrate the signing of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan, which they stubbornly refuse to recognize," he said.

Confirmation of this thesis is provided by the fact that three trucks carrying ammunition for these groupings were blown up near the dump. But all the indications are that the saboteurs tried too hard: According to information reaching Delhi from "American intelligence circles," Washington regrets not the death of the people but the destruction of thousands of Stingers.

Iran, USSR Exchange Congratulatory Telegrams

LD150822 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has sent President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran a telegram of congratulations and good wishes on the occasion of his country's national holiday, Revolution Day.

The Iranian president in his reply telegram expressed gratitude for the congratulations and wished well-being and prosperity for the Soviet people.

The USSR Council of Ministers has sent a telegram on the same occasion to Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In his reply telegram the Iranian prime minister expressed gratitude for the congratulations.

Shevardnadze Upcoming Mideast Tour 'Confirmed'

TA140534 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Apr 88 p 1

[Report by Menahem Shalev and Wolf Blitzer]

[Excerpts] Prospects for Soviet-American understanding on the U.S. peace initiative were enhanced yesterday as the Soviet Embassy in Amman confirmed that Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze plans to conduct an unprecedented tour of the Middle East. [passage omitted]

Cabinet ministers and other officials contacted by THE JERUSALEM POST last night appeared resigned to the fact that Shevardnadze would not visit Israel, although some senior officials did not rule out the possibility of such a dramatic move.

Well-placed sources said that the planned visit indicates that the Soviets wish to advance the Shultz peace initiative. The Soviets may not support the details of the Shultz plan, one official said, but they do view it as an "excellent vehicle" for enhancing their diplomatic presence in the Middle East.

Shevardnadze is slated to meet Shultz in Geneva today to sign the agreement facilitating a Soviet pullout from Afghanistan. Sources in Jerusalem said that the Middle East has been placed on the agenda for their talks today.

Although the Soviet Embassy in Amman said only that Shevardnadze would arrive in the area "soon," sources in Jerusalem expect the visit to take place as early as the beginning of next week, in advance of the extensive talks between Shultz and Shevardnadze scheduled to be held on April 22-24.

Sources close to Foreign Minister Peres have said that the U.S. has some "intriguing formulas" that might bridge the Soviet-American differences concerning an international conference on Middle East peace. [passage omitted]

Peres' policy adviser, Nimrod Novik, was in Paris yesterday and is expected to meet today with the head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East desk, Vladimir Terasov. There have also been unconfirmed reports that Yosef Ben-Aharon, the director-general of the prime minister's office, may meet with Soviet officials in London. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0405 GMT on 14 April in a report adds that "according to as yet unconfirmed reports," Herut Knesset member Meridor "has held a series of meetings in Vienna with Soviet officials in preparation for the Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting in Moscow in a week."]

Absorption Minister Ya'aqov Tzur told THE POST last night that Shevardnadze's visit contradicts Likud assertions that the Soviets are not interested in a Middle East diplomatic process. The visit, he said indicates Soviet involvement and proves that the peace process will move ahead, despite Israel's inability to endorse the U.S. plan. [passage omitted]

Sources in Jerusalem said that the main purpose of the visit is to project the Soviets' "superpower image," which the Kremlin wants to be on a par with that of the U.S.

The sources said that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's public call last week to Yasir 'Arafat to recognize Israel is seen as a more favourable signal to Jordan than to Israel. The sources noted that Gorbachev had asked 'Arafat to meet one of the conditions put to the PLO by Jordan for the PLO's participation.

Sub-Saharan Africa

'Full Text' of Ryzhkov Message to UN Commission

LD150829 Moscow TASS in English 0600 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—Follows the full text of a message of greetings sent by the head of the Soviet Government Nikolay Ryzhkov to the participants in the 23rd session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, that opened on April 14 in Niamey, the capital of the Republic of Niger:

"On behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics I greet the participants in the 23rd session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on the occasion of its 30th anniversary.

"Since the time of its establishment the commission is unbreakably connected with the struggle of the African peoples for overcoming underdevelopment, for economic and social progress, for developing regional cooperation, transforming international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and ensuring for Africa a place in the world community worthy of its potential and cultural heritage.

"The Soviet Union is of a high opinion of the commission's role in attaining these lofty aims and expresses readiness further to develop cooperation with the countries of Africa on the basis of equality, strict respect for independence and sovereignty and mutual advantage.

"The present anniversary of the economic commission for Africa has coincided with a very complex and tense period in the African countries, plight [as received] remains in the region and the threat of hunger is growing again. The huge foreign debt, the non-equivalent exchange and unequal trade actually block the economic development of many African countries, still further increase the world poverty on one pole and wealth on the other. The situation on the continent is seriously aggravated by the aggressive policy of the Pretoria racist regime against neighbouring African states.

"We believe that mankind is capable by concerted efforts to put an end to such an intolerable situation. This is demanded by the interests not only of the African peoples but also of the entire world community. We are convinced that the solution of this task can be accelerated by switching resources on a global scale from the arms race to aims of development and creating a comprehensive system of international peace and security, including the establishment of a new world economic order and ensuring the economic security of every state.

"The implementation of the Soviet proposal to create an international fund 'Disarmament for Development' under the aegis of the United Nations Organisation could become an important step along this direction. The Soviet Union firmly intends further to take the most active part in the world community's efforts to turn disarmament into a factor of development and facilitate in every way the cause of universal security and international cooperation.

"We are convinced that by using its authority the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa will make a worthy contribution to the implementation of the principles of a safe and non-violent world in which the independence, equality and unimpeded development of each will be a precondition of the prosperity of all.

"I wish the participants in the session successful work.

"Nikolay Ryzhkov

"Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR"

Somali President Barre Receives Adamishin

PM131649 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "Official Announcements"]

[Text] Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre met Monday with A.L. Adamishin, special representative of the Soviet leadership and USSR deputy foreign minister, who arrived here following conversations with the leaders of Ethiopia and Sudan. There was an exchange of opinions on the situation in the Horn of Africa and the need to safeguard peace in the region and for cooperation, good-neighborliness, and an end to enmity and alienation. The Somali president was told of the high opinion that is held of the accords reached recently between Somalia and Ethiopia.

Communique on Mozambique Assembly Visit Noted

LD150556 Moscow TASS in English 1749 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—The joint communique on the results of the official visit to the USSR of the delegation of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Mozambique says that the Soviet and Mozambican parliamentarians have noted with satisfaction the high level already achieved in the cooperation between the two countries in different fields, stated their reciprocal desire to broaden and deepen this cooperation in the interests of the peoples of both countries.

Examining the present state of the world, the two sides reaffirmed the commonality of their stands on the most acute international problems, and expressed their common commitment to the idea of establishing a comprehensive system of international peace and security.

In this connection the Soviet and Mozambican representatives especially noted the importance of the Soviet-American summit meeting to be held in Moscow, and of attaining an agreement to cut the strategic offensive armaments of the USSR and the USA by 50 per cent while continuing to abide by the ABM Treaty.

The Soviet and Mozambican parliamentarians paid special attention to the still existing pockets of tensions and conflicts in various parts of the globe, including those in the south of Africa. In the process, the sides spoke out in favour of a just political settlement of these conflicts with full account for the legitimate interests of states and for the right of peoples to sovereignly decide their destinies. The sides have resolutely condemned the racist Pretoria regime for its continued policy of aggression and destabilisation vis-a-vis Mozambique, Angola and other "frontline" states, for its continued illegal occupation of Namibia and escalation of reprisals inside its own country.

The sides expressed the conviction that a further development of interparliamentary ties between the two countries will contribute to a still closer Soviet-Mozambican cooperation in all fields.

East Europe

CSSR's Husak Concludes Official Moscow Visit

Tours Samarkand

LD150856 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1030 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Soviet Union. Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and president of the Republic, today visited the second largest Uzbek town, Samarkand. This center of ancient culture and knowledge is today still a symbol of the historic traditions of the Central Asian nations. Accompanied by Uzbek representatives, Gustav Husak saw the central Samarkand Square of Registan and the Bibi Khanym Mosque, built at the turn of the 15th century. He also visited the Samarkand city market and greeted the inhabitants of the city who had gathered to welcome him. The Czechoslovak president also saw the 14th century Gur-Emir complex where the conqueror and leader Timur is buried with members of his family who lived on the territory of today's Uzbekistan. After seeing Samarkand, Gustav Husak and his entourage traveled back to Tashkent.

Leaves Uzbekistan

LD141417 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president, who has been staying in our country on an official friendship visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Tashkent for home today.

Comrade Nishanov, Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee first secretary; Comrade Orlov, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman, and other officials saw him off at the airport. Prior to his departure by air, Gustav Husak went to Samarkand.

'Joint Communique' Issued

PM141645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 88 First Edition pp 1, 6

["Joint Communique on the Official Friendly Visit to the USSR by G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR President"]

[Text] Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president, paid an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union 11-14 April 1988 at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, received G. Husak. During the talks a high assessment was made of the state of relations between the CPSU and the CPCZ and between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, and there was a thorough exchange of opinions on questions of the two countries' socioeconomic development and of strengthening their cooperation in the cause of deepening and consolidating positive trends in the international situation. M.S. Gorbachev spoke of the CPSU's great work connected with the preparations for the 19th All-Union Party Conference, which will examine questions connected with the implementation of restructuring, the improvement of the Soviet Union's political system, and the realization of the plans of the current 5-year plan.

On behalf of the CPCZ leadership and Czechoslovakia's Communists and working people the CSSR president expressed full support for the innovative domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state and provided information on the realization of the strategic line of the 17th CPCZ Congress aimed at accelerating the CSSR's socioeconomic development and deepening socialist democracy in all spheres of social life. He familiarized M.S. Gorbachev with the CPCZ Central Committee April (1988) Plenum decisions, which confirmed the policy of restructuring and the democratization of society and the mobilization of the entire party to ensure this.

A.A. Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, held talks with G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president.

Participating in the talks were:

On the Soviet side—E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister; A.F. Ryuytel, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman; T.N. Menteshashvili, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary; Colonel General B.A. Omelichev [not further identified]; N.F. Rubtsov, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Secretariat; E.L. Kuzmin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department; V.V. Svirin, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Central European Socialist Countries Department; and V.P. Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR;

On the Czechoslovak side—Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR foreign minister; Frantisek Salda, chief of the CSSR President's Chancellery; Lieutenant General Jiri Necas, chief of the CSSR President's Military Chancellery; Jan Havel, chief of a department of the CSSR President's Chancellery; Stanislav Suja, chief of the CSSR Foreign Minister's Secretariat; Libor Pecl, chief of the CSSR Foreign Ministry First Territorial Department; Emil Keblusek, chief of the CSSR Foreign Ministry International Problems Department; and Jindrich Rehorek, CSSR ambassador to the USSR.

G. Husak laid wreaths at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin wall.

The CSSR president visited the Uzbek SSR, where he familiarized himself with the activity of the republic party organization and state organs in implementing the CPSU policy of restructuring and democratizing all spheres of social life.

During the talks and meetings, which were held in a spirit of frankness, fraternity, and complete mutual understanding, the sides briefed each other in detail on the progress in realizing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 17th CPCZ Congress.

The opinion was expressed that the radical economic reforms and processes of deepening the democratization of social life under way in our countries under the leadership of the CPSU and the CPCZ are similar in their directions and ultimate goals, which makes it possible to make more effective use of the experience accumulated in solving socioeconomic problems. They reaffirmed the full coincidence of their evaluations of the present crucial stage in socialist building which requires new approaches and decisions. Favorable possibilities for comprehensively deepening and improving Soviet-Czechoslovak relations and coordinating joint stands on the fundamental problems of socialist building and international policy have been created by the accords reached during the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and M. Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, in January 1988 in Moscow.

During the talks particular attention was devoted to the problems of economic and scientific and technical cooperation, deepening production specialization and cooperation, expanding direct production links between enterprises and other new forms of integrational cooperation, and improving the structure of reciprocal trade. These aims are served by the concept of economic and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the CSSR being worked out for the next 15-20 years, which will create a good basis for the dynamic development of bilateral ties, the achievement of leading positions in the most important areas of science, technology, and production, and the realization of the planned structural transformations in the economy of both countries.

There was reaffirmation of their intention to consistently implement practical measures to fulfill the decisions of the 43d (Extraordinary) Sitting of the CEMA Session, and to carry out purposeful work to improve the mechanism of socialist economic integration.

The sides believe there are considerable unutilized reserves for imparting greater dynamism to cooperation in the ideological sphere and the fields of culture, education, and science, to contacts in the form of local and border ties between the creative intelligentsia and between young people, and to direct contact between people. The strengthening of fraternal friendship and the galvanization of ties in the spiritual sphere will be promoted by the formation of an intergovernmental commission for cooperation in culture, education, and science between the USSR and the CSSR and by the forthcoming opening of a CSSR cultural information center in Moscow.

During their discussion of international problems the sides reaffirmed their full unity of views in their assessment of the situation in Europe and the world as a whole. They expressed their determination to strengthen collaboration in international affairs and step up their joint efforts aimed at creating a comprehensive system of international peace and security, removing the nuclear threat, overcoming confrontation, and removing artificial barriers standing in the way of business cooperation.

They noted with satisfaction that the innovative, constructive policy imbued with deep concern for the fate of peace and the security of the peoples which is being pursued by the fraternal socialist countries is beginning to produce the first real results. The signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which opens prospects of the continuation of the disarmament process, is a clear sign of this. In this connection A.A. Gromyko informed the other side of progress made by the USSR Supreme Soviet in its discussion of the Soviet-U.S. treaty submitted for ratification. G. Husak briefed the Soviet side on progress made in the ratification of the treaty documents signed by the CSSR on inspections in connection with the Soviet-U.S. treaty. The sides emphasized that the early withdrawal of Soviet operational-tactical missiles-22 [OTR-22] from the CSSR and the GDR with the consent of these countries' governments is convincing evidence of the socialist states' goodwill to advance the process of nuclear disarmament.

In the opinion of the two sides, the main task at present is the conclusion of an agreement between the USSR and the United States to halve their strategic offensive weapons while strictly abiding by the ABM Treaty in the form in which it was signed in 1972 and not to withdraw from this treaty for an agreed period. This accord would not simply be another step on the way to disarmament but would be a breakthrough in the general direction of a nuclear-free world.

The hope was expressed that the next Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow will be as productive as M.S. Gorbachev's visit to Washington and will make a substantial contribution to improving the international situation as a whole.

The USSR and CSSR are in favor of the successful completion of the Soviet-U.S. talks on prohibiting nuclear weapon tests on the basis of the strictest verification measures, and also the multilateral talks on the complete prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons.

The sides condemned the plans NATO is working on to "compensate" for the nuclear armaments eliminated under the Treaty on Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles as a serious danger to the prospect that has now emerged of reduced military confrontation in Europe. It was pointed out that while disarmament is taking place in one area the arms race cannot be allowed to develop in others. In this connection attention was drawn to the danger that would be posed by the intensification of the militarist component in West European integration processes.

In the course of a in-depth exchange of opinions on questions connected with safeguarding security and developing cooperation in Europe the sides stressed that they attach paramount significance to agreeing on a mandate for talks on reducing armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals and to starting the talks in 1988.

A.A. Gromyko declared full support for the important comprehensive initiative recently put forward by Czechoslovakia on creating a zone of trust, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states. The implementation of this proposal would contribute to improving the overall political climate on the continent and developing the all-European process.

The sides confirmed their adherence to the concept of a "common European home" and advocated the speediest completion of the Vienna meeting of representatives of CSCE states on the basis of a substantive and balanced final document on military-political, trade and economic, ecological, scientific, humanitarian, and other aspects of security and cooperation on the continent.

They noted that respect for the current territorial and political realities and strict observance of the generally acknowledged principles and norms of international law are conditions of the maintenance of lasting peace and security in Europe.

During the discussion of the situation in other regions of the world grave concern was expressed at the escalation of the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the Near East, Central America, and southern Africa, and there was confirmation of the firm resolve to actively contribute to the speediest political settlement of the seats of tension and conflicts existing in the world.

The sides welcomed the effort made to bring an Afghan settlement into the sphere of the achievement of final accords, and they noted the great contribution made to the elaboration of these accords by the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. It was particularly emphasized that it is the exlusive prerogative of the Afghans themselves to deal with intra-Afghan affairs.

During the visit an agreement was signed between the USSR and CSSR Governments on the creation and activity of a CSSR cultural information center in the Soviet Union, along with a protocol on setting up an intergovernmental commission on cooperation in the sphere of culture, education, and science between the USSR and the CSSR. A protocol was also signed on cooperation between the two countries' foreign ministries.

G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR President, conveyed to A.A. Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, an invitation to pay an official friendly visit to the CSSR. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

The official friendly visit to the USSR by G. Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president, has contributed to further deepening comprehensive collaboration and strengthening the friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples and has been an important contribition to the development of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations.

Departs for CSSR

LD141221 Prague CTK in English 1133 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Tashkent April 14 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium Member and President Gustav Husak ended his official friendly visit to the Soviet Union, leaving Tashkent for home today.

The president was accompanied by Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek, head of the President's office Frantisek Salda and other members of his entourage.

Medvedev, MSZMP Delegation Extend Contacts

LD142319 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] In accordance with the plan of interparty contacts between the CPSU and the MSZMP, a group of MSZMP party workers led by Kovacs, head of the MSZMP Central Committee Department of Party Management and Administration, was in Moscow 12-14 April. They acquainted themselves with the experience of the CPSU on issues of financial economic activity and had meetings and conversations in the CPSU Central Committee Administration of Affairs Department. Comrade Kovacs was received by Medvedev, CPSU Central Committee secretary.

Support for Solidarity Called 'Wishful Thinking'

PM140731 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Apr 88 Second Edition p 6

[Article by Jerzy Kraszewski, TRYBUNA LUDU own correspondent in Moscow, under the rubric "A Foreign Journalist Speaks": "...Riding a Foreign Wave"]

[Text] If we were to believe Western radio stations broadcasting in the Polish language and some bourgeois press correspondents reporting from Warsaw, we could conclude that a strong underground "Solidarity," exercising tremendous influence, is active in Poland and that it still sways people's minds and influences their position and views. This is wishful thinking on the part of the Western press. It is eager to maintain this legend and myth at any cost.

But the reality is completely different. The process of important economic changes is gathering pace in Poland, which is overcoming certain difficulties and resolving complex economic problems. Society is following with interest the transformations being implemented and pinning its hopes on the second stage of economic reform. The overwhelming majority wants no part in the political games recommended by certain circles in the West.

The introduction of the emergency measures on 13 December 1981 paralyzed the "Solidarity" leadership centers. Society began to gradually realize the extent of the danger created by the leadership of antisocialist groupings.

Today, even though these events occurred years ago, remnants of illegal structures still persist in Poland's political makeup. They continue the illegal publication of leaflets and broadsheets and engage in incitement. But a new development is increasingly noticeable today: A split has developed among the leaders of the former "Solidarity" and various contradictory trends have emerged, with personal ambitions and settling of accounts gaining the upper hand. There are arguments between groupings both inside the country and in the emigre branch which was set up in Brussels, as well as among the political emigres themselves.

When the contradictions became more clearly defined, a "unification" was attempted. Various "commissions" and "councils" united in a so-called executive commission, which promotes demands to legalize its activity even though it represents nobody apart from a tiny group of functionaries.

The extreme adventurists operate under the name "Fighting Solidarity." They no longer bother with any camouflage and do not hide behind the tactics of covenants with the authorities. Their program is one of outright confrontation. A consignment of containers was intercepted in 1987, for example, which was being used to secretly bring into Poland tear gas canisters, electric prods, gas pistols which could easily be converted into firearms, optical gunsights, and so on. Duplicating machines, matrices, printer's ink, and antistate publications were also discovered. The consignment was loaded in Sweden and was addressed to the leadership of that terrorist organization.

One of the organization's chiefs by the name of Andrzej Kolodziej, hiding under an alias and using forged documents, was recently arrested. His case is under investigation.

There are also other small illegal groupings in Poland. Essentially, not a single one of them has a social base.

Attempts to breach public order were made in connection with the latest decisions to increase prices. One such "demonstration" originated from St Brigid's Catholic Church in Gdansk, another from the Catholic Church in Warsaw's Zoliborz District. The organizers were the same as before. Western correspondents were there, filming and taking photographs. The "demonstrators" dispersed, and television viewers in the West were served yet another portion of "objective" information from Poland. RFE [Radio Free Europe] spread it across the airwaves, with canards abounding in yet another batch of inciting broadcasts.

This is the essence of the matter. Had it not been for the propaganda and material support of Western subversion centers, even these remnants of opposition structures would not have managed to remain in being. When all is said and done, RFE is engaged in nothing new.

Way back in the summer of 1980 it called for political demands to be made during the strikes. In 1981 it fanned passions, instigated local conflicts, and called for open confrontation. Following the introduction of martial law the radio station changed its tactics, but its objectives remained the same as before—to apply the brakes to the process of stabilization in the country, supply false information to the population, and maintain tension.

The subversive propaganda by Western radio stations broadcasting in Polish is not abating. A new aggressive wave in this campaign rolled in recently in connection with the price increases.

During this period Poles had to deal with the exceptionally cynical duplicity of some Western centers. On the one hand they called for the implementation of reform, emphasizing that Poland's economic relations with the West depended on it, while on the other they strove to weaken public support for the incipient changes. The initial goal was to cause more disorder in Poland and provoke an explosion of dissatisfaction. Later on, when these attempts failed, the goal was to disorganize the commodity-money equilibrium by inspiring demands for wage increases.

At present, one-half of RFE Polish-language programs are devoted to the activities of remnants from the former "Solidarity" structure. The mechanism of these programs is still the same: For example, people in Poland prepare the latest leaflet, the "appeal" or "address" is sent to the West where it makes its way to the radio station, and it is very soon back in the country, this time on the airwaves.

But it must also be said that the influence of Western radio voices on Poles' awareness is steadily diminishing. Studies conducted at the end of last year show that 22 percent of Poles listen to subversive programs more or less frequently, while 78 percent do not listen to them at all.

But we must not underestimate the fact that the activity of the class adversary abroad and the activity of political adversaries inside the country do, to a greater or lesser degree, influence the awareness of some Poles and sow pessimism and mistrust in the feasibility and effectiveness of our programs and the efforts being made to solve difficult economic problems. The enemy is striving to undermine confidence in socialism, the PZPR, and the people's state.

Radio propaganda still remains the main means for maintaining the myth about the former "Solidarity."

The West is constantly sending financial and material resources to its proteges. This is the source used to finance antistate activity and to pay the salaries of former "Solidarity" cadres. The U.S. Congress officially allocated $1 million for the activity of illegal structures in Poland. There were many conflicts and arguments about the way to use this money, but facts remain facts: People benefiting from U.S. subsidies thus become officially paid agents of a foreign state. This is no longer political opposition in the classical sense, it is essentially a network of agents riding on a foreign wave, promoting foreign interests.

While I was writing this article, I received news of the latest anti-Polish subversive propaganda campaign. This time it was prompted by the authorities' decision to refuse Walesa and some of his other colleagues passports to travel to Australia.

What was the purpose of this long-distance trip by Walesa?

He wanted to accept an ICFTU invitation to attend its congress. This trade union center does not recognize the trade unions legally existing in Poland and rallying more than 7 million members in their ranks. The various "commissions" and "committees" paid by certain Western circles are illegal and, moreover, lack public support. This is first. Second, these are not trade unions but political groupings striving to overthrow the socialist system in Poland, even with the use of force. This was declared in 1981. It was recently repeated by Walesa, speaking of an "impending attack." For a group of persons representing no one to make the journey would not be in line with Poland's political interests and would be a mockery of our laws.

This is why they were not given passports. It was clear from the very beginning that the invitation was a provocation against Poland.

My Soviet often friends often ask me: How did it happen that an opposition took shape in a socialist country?

This is a rather complex problem, and its roots must evidently be sought in the distant past, in the anticommunist stereotypes which built up over the decades, in the still-strong influence of ideologies and world philosophies that are alien to socialism. Only profound and emotion-free analysis are likely to help to elaborate the necessary assessments for the correct programming of socialist building in Poland.

It seems to me an indisputable fact that the direct origin of the threat to socialism in Poland in the early eighties was rooted in at least three factors which operated simultaneously and were intertwined. First, the profound economic and social crisis which had been building up for a long time and was manifested in the late seventies—a crisis which was the consequence of mistakes in economic policy including rather extensive economic ties with the West, excessive loans, and so on. Second, the activation of antisocialist groups which managed to capture the main links of "Solidarity" and especially its leadership, as a result of which they got their first opportunity for open activity within legal structures in 1980-1981. Third, the subversive role of Western anticommunist centers, taking the form of not only radio propaganda but also direct financial and material assistance.

These factors operated in Poland simultaneously, with more or less equal effect. They must be examined together, their interaction and reciprocal influence must be studied. I think this was the main cause of the crisis.

The majority of these events are now part of history. The changes being implemented in economic policy are preventing mistakes, new class trade unions are operating. Antisocialist groupings are increasingly isolated from society. The results of the subversive propaganda activity by anticommunist centers in the West are less and less effective.

My country is leading a normal life, even though there are still many unsolved tasks. We do not overestimate the importance of the activity of antisocialist groupings in Poland, nor do we underestimate their existence and their agency network ties with anticommunist centers in the West. After all, we have been taught a bitter and dramatic lesson which must never be repeated.

West Europe

Austrian Defense Minister Visits Leningrad

LD141308 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Leningrad April 14 TASS—Robert Lichal, minister of the national defence of the Austrian Republic, arrived here today. He is currently in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

At the airport he was met by the commander of the troops of the Leningrad Military District, and by other officials.

The guest laid flowers at the Monument to the Defenders of Leningrad, went to the Piskaryovskoye memorial cemetery and laid a wreath. During a sightseeing tour of the city Mr Lichal viewed the museum exhibits on board the Aurora, the cruiser of the revolution.

The Austrian national defence minister is being accompanied in the tour by Colonel General Dmitriy Grinkevich, chief of the main headquarters—the first deputy commander-in-chief of Land Forces.

Netherlands Parliamentary Delegation in Moscow

LD150615 Moscow TASS in English 1839 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—The delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Second Chamber of Staten Generaal (parliament) of the Netherlands was received at the Foreign Ministry of the USSR today.

The guests displayed profound interest in the idea of the "all-European home." The sides underlined that every European country can make its positive contribution to building up confidence and developing cooperation in the continent.

Discussing disarmament problems, the parliamentarians of the Netherlands declared for the early conclusion of an agreement between the USSR and the USA on 50-per cent reduction in strategic offensive armaments.

The delegation had a meeting at the Institute of Europe of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The guests underlined that Europe was now living through a crucial period, that detente tendencies would be growing there, and integration processes would go deeper.

The Dutch parliamentarians also visited the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation. They met with members of the Public Commission on Cooperation in Humanitarian Questions and the Sphere of Human Rights.

Canadian Foreign Ministry Official Arrives

LD141146 Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—Today Boris Chaplin, USSR deputy foreign minister, received Alan Mclaine, head of the USSR and East European Countries Department of the Canadian Foreign Ministry, who arrived in Moscow for consultations on consular questions.

At the talk the sides discussed current issues of bilateral Soviet-Canadian relations.

The meeting was attended by Vernon George Turner, Canadian ambassador to the USSR.

Meeting Demands Punishment for War's 'Hangmen'

AU131232 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 7 Apr 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "Hangmen Should Be Brought to Account"]

[Excerpts] Such mass crimes were unprecedented in the entire millennial history of the ancient town of Vladimir Volynskiy. In the black times of the fascist occupation, the Hitlerites, along with Ukrainian bourgeois nationalists, killed there more than 25,000 peaceful citizens, including women, old people, and children. The same number of Soviet people were killed and tortured to death by the occupiers in the local prisoner of war camp. These horrible figures were recalled at a crowded meeting held recently at the Eternal Flame in the city's central square.

In their grief over those who had fallen, people wrathfully named the culprits of the crimes, including Wilhelm Westerheide, former district commissar, and Johanna Zelle (nee Altvater), his secretary. After the liberation of the town by the Soviet Army in 1944, they managed to evade the deserved punishment. Nor did this punishment befall them after the crash of Hitler's Reich. [passage omitted]

The Land court in Bielefeld passed a verdict of "not guilty," allegedly because of the "lack of evidence" of their crimes. This aroused indignation, not only among the Soviet people but also among the progressive public in the FRG itself. But after the repeated examination of the case in 1982, the Land court in Dortmund also acquitted the hangmen. [passage omitted]

The participants in the meeting unanimously adopted a message to R. von Weizsaecker, FRG president; F. Jenninger, Bundestag chairman; and H. Kohl, chancellor, which in particular says that, in the case of Westerheide and Zelle, the verdict of "not guilty" was an outrage to the memory of the thousands of innocent victims. The West German authorities were reminded that, among the tens of thousands of Nazi war criminals who had found refuge in that country, there were also those who had perpetrated crimes on Ukrainian soil. Ranking among the latter is Karl Kaufmann, former gendarmerie chief at Sribne village in Chernigov Oblast. That killer was personally involved in the murder of more than 600 peaceful people. As early as 7 years ago, the FRG authorities had received materials about the bloody crimes perpetrated by former policemen Matthias Karmann, Hnat Synyavskyy, and others. But, notwithstanding the repeated demands from the participants in the mass meeting in the Ukraine, none of the killers was extradited to Soviet justice.

The participants in the meeting initiated the planting of trees along Remembrance Avenue belonging to the memorial complex.

Latin America & Caribbean

Paper Claims Two Killed in Panama 'Shootout'

LD140916 Moscow TASS in English 0714 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Havana April 14 TASS—According to reports coming into Havana, an armed clash took place between U.S. Marines and a group of unidentified people at the U.S. Howard military base situated in the Panama Canal Zone. Information circulated on Wednesday by the U.S.

South Command headquartered in the Canal Zone says that on Tuesday some 40 people opened fire on U.S. soldiers guarding fuel storage facilities. The shootout continued for three hours.

A spokesman of the U.S. South Command alleged that there had been no casualties either on the U.S. side or on the side of attackers as a result of the clash. However, the Panamanian newspaper CRITICA reports that two people were killed during the shootout.

Representatives of the Panamanian National Defence Forces (NDF) said that NDF units acted with extreme care not to be drawn into a provocation which could be used as a pretext for a U.S. direct armed invasion in Panama.

Honduran Government Lifts State of Emergency

LD141016 Moscow TASS in English 0921 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Havana April 14 TASS—On Wednesday the Government of Honduras lifted the state of emergency in the capital and in the country's second largest city of San Pedro Sula. The state of emergency had been imposed on Thursday last week after U.S. Marines fired on a student demonstration outside the U.S. Embassy building in Tegucigalpa.

Honduran radio pointed out that the shooting, as a result of which five demonstrators had been killed, signified the growth of anti-American sentiments among the country's population.

In view of the developments, the Communist Party and a number of other political and public organizations had condemned the authorities' connivance at U.S. aggressive aspirations in the region.

The government's conciliatory attitude towards the presence of the military bases of the Pentagon and the Nicaraguan contras on Honduran territory had been strongly criticised, in particular.

For fear of a wave of people's protests against the occupation of Honduras by U.S. troops, the government had launched a large scale campaign of reprisals against the patriotic forces and population. Tanks, armored cars, and troops had been brought to the streets of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula and soldier's cordons had been posted everythere. Hundreds of people had been arrested under the provisions of the decree on the state of emergency.

Nicaraguan Defense Minister's Letter Cited

LD141005 Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Managua April 14 TASS—The Nicaraguan Government expressed a serious concern over another round of direct talks with armed counter-revolution (to be held in Managua on April 15) due to inconsistent and non-constructive stand of the leadership of the "Nicaraguan Democratic Resistance" [NDR]. Actually all steps by the government on carrying out the peace understandings signed with contras were blocked as a result of artificial procrastinations at the talks of military experts in Sapoa. In this connection Nicaraguan Defence Minister Humberto Ortega sent a letter to contra leaders on Wednesday, demanding that they reply to the government's repeated proposals concerning a meeting in Managua.

The national leadership deems it necessary, the document points out, for the NDR leaders to confirm officially their intention to participate in negotiations in Managua and inform of this the mediators—OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo. The message points to the inexpediency of convening a military expert conference (to be held in Sapoa on the eve of a meeting in Managua) which, in the opinion of contras, is to resolve the question of concentrating armed units in ceasefire zones during an armistice. Both delegations in Managua will have sufficient data and powers to take such a decision, the message points out. At the same time unacceptable conditions put forth by "resistance" leaders are a pretext for scuttling direct talks with the national leadership on a ceasefire in Nicaragua, the document points out.

According to reports from Miami, contra leaders again spoke out for holding "intermediate" talks in Sapoa on April 14 to determine locations of ceasefire zones and activities of armed groups there. On its part, the government declared fulfilment of obligations assumed in connection with the coming meeting with contras and ensurance of their safety in Managua. Miguel Obando y Bravo told pressmen here that constant procrastinations at the talks hamper the process of a peaceful settlement when there is a real threat of resumption of the bloodshed in the country. Such a situation is promoted by some demands which are put forth by the contras and the government and which create an atmosphere of uncertainty around the negotiations, noted the cardinal.

Haitian Communist Interviewed on Elections

PM141035 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Apr 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with Rene Theodore, secretary general of the United Party of Haitian Communists [PUCH] Central Committee, conducted by own correspondent A. Kamorin under the "IZVESTIYA Interview" rubric: "Since the Tempestuous Events"—first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Since the tempestuous events that preceded the January elections this year, reports about Haiti have disappeared off the front pages of the world press. However, the calm in that Caribbean country does not mean that the advent to power of the government of

President Leslie Manigat, elected as a result of a pathetically small poll and, what is more, in an atmosphere of intimidation and forgery, solved the very acute crisis in the state. The silence in Port-au-Prince could produce new social explosions.

Rene Theodore, secretary general of the PUCH Central Committee, talks here about the present situation in Haiti.

Havana—Kamorin: Comrade Theodore, how do you rate the country's new government?

Theodore: The nub of the problem, in my view, is that we are dealing with a government which ultimately no one elected. This is obliquely recognized even by the authorities themselves.

Our people's long struggle against the Duvalier tyranny was above all a struggle for democracy. The present regime has again imposed a military and oligarchic diktat on the country. Under these conditions it does not have to rely on the population's support, but without that no government can solve Haiti's chronic economic and social problems, no matter how good its intentions.

Kamorin: Have there been any positive economic changes?

Theodore: With the ending of American economic aid, living standards have fallen still further. When people talk about Haiti, poverty and hunger go without saying. That is correct, but it is only half the truth. Haiti is also a country where millionaires wallow in luxury.

At the same time, wages at Haitian enterprises are only $3 a day, which is below the mimimum hourly rate for a worker in the United States. Incomes are even lower in rural localities. Peasant tenants are forced to hand over more than half their crop to the landowners. It is virtually a feudal rent. Teachers get paid less than soldiers in our country.

Despite that, Port-au-Prince is an extremely expensive city. The cost of living there is no lower and is sometimes even higher than, say, Paris. With unemployment in the capital running at 60 percent (40 percent in the provinces), the wages of one family member have to support five people on average. The ordinary Haitian leads a hand-to-mouth existence, trying not to think about the future.

Kamorin: Why, then, did Haiti's democratic organizations nevertheless fail, after last year's mass popular demonstrations, to hold out for honest elections?

Theodore: Those who were really seeking profound changes in political life were fragmented and not strong enough. There are two reasons for this, I think. First, the traditions of political struggle were lost during the 29 years of dictatorship. The heterogeneous tendencies simply failed to achieve good organization, discipline, genuine unity, or concerted action.

Second, foreign naval forces showed an unusual level of activity off the Haiti coast during the period from last November through 17 January this year—election day. American ships came right up to our territorial waters, posing a direct invasion threat. This pressure could not be discounted. The extensive mobilization of the masses to actively oppose the electoral farce could have provoked a catastrophic development of events.

Kamorin: What is the position of Duvalier's supporters in the country?

Theodore: They retain their influence. It is based, of course, on the enormous resources they possess and not any affection the population has for them. The millions of dollars plundered during Duvalier's rule allowed his stooges to capture the bulk of the parliamentary seats.

The ultra-rightists have learned the lessons of the last 2 years and are switching to "parliamentary" methods of consolidating their domination. They are doing so partly because the omnipresent influence of the Tontons Macoutes has waned. The basic unit—informers and murderers—has declined in town and country: After the tyrant's overthrow, many of them were killed and many fled to other departments of the country.

Kamorin: Rumors sometimes creep into the world press that Jean-Claude Duvalier has plans to return to Haiti....

Theodore: You know, there is a certain basis to these rumors. With 60 percent of the legislators in his pocket and seeing that millionaires—his supporters who fled in fear at the outburst of popular anger—are flocking back to the country, Baby Doc undoubtedly does ask himself: And why shouldn't I return, too?

However, the personality of Jean-Claude Duvalier is too odious. He incarnates for Haiti 30 years of real hell. So, despite such a strong temptation, I do not think that Duvalier will dare show his face in Port-au-Prince.

Kamorin: What are the tasks for Haitian democrats today?

Theodore: We have missed one opportunity to achieve our aim. Lessons now have to be learned from that failure. In the future, we must act in a more resolute, coordinated, and disciplined way, work persistently among the masses, and seek national unity from below—from the urban and rural workers.

Political & Social

Politburo Approves Afghan Settlement, Visits

LD141927 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1700 GMT 14 Apr 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] At its latest session on 14 April, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo confirmed the CPSU Central Committee slogans for the day of international solidarity of working people, 1 May.

The session discussed information from CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on his visit to the Uzbek SSR. The central economic departments and ministries and the AUCCTU were asked to process the questions raised by working people and by the party and economic aktiv during the meetings and conversations, special attention being drawn to the need to improve the use made of the economic potential and to enhance on this basis the socioeconomic development of the republic. Instructions were given for appropriate proposals to be submitted to the CPSU Central Committee for examination.

Proposals on the organization and administrative structure of education in the country were examined and approved. In accordance with the guidelines laid down by the CPSU Central Committee February 1988 Plenum, the new structure of administration is expected to ensure more efficient implementation of the unified state policy in this sphere.

The newly created USSR State Committee for Education is charged with drawing up a strategy, making predictions, and carrying out long-term planning instruction and education. It is called upon to resolve the tasks of shaping and implementing the concept of general secondary education; making extensive use of effective forms of integration of educational establishments with industry and science; equipping the secondary and higher schools with modern technological teaching aids; the scientific-methodological and organizational administration of the system of advanced training and retraining of cadres; and improving the use of the scientific potential of higher educational establishments.

The rights of the local education authorities and educational and teaching institutions are extended. A considerable reduction of administrative personnel is envisaged.

The session heard a report on Comrade Gorbachev's meeting with President Najibullah of the Republic of Afghanistan in Tashkent on 7 April, and on the results of the talks which Comrade Shevardnadze had with the Afghan leaders during his working visit to Kabul 3-6 April. Satisfaction was expressed with the progress of the development of Soviet-Afghan cooperation and interaction, including work to unblock the external aspects of the Afghan problem. The result of this is the completion of the Geneva diplomatic process and the signing of the documents on a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

The Soviet-Afghan summit, of which the Soviet-Afghan declaration was the outcome, confirmed the desire of both sides to continue to act resolutely in the direction of achieving a universal Afghan settlement. In light of the accords already reached in Geneva, special importance now attaches to resolving the internal aspects of the Afghan problem. The approach to this is precisely specified in the declaration, which expresses firm and resolute support for the course toward national reconciliation in Afghanistan and the setting up of a government on a broad coalition basis, it being understood that the issues of an intra-Afghan settlement are exclusively the responsibility and prerogative of the Afghans themselves.

The Politburo examined and approved the results of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's conversation and Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's talks with Gustav Husak, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR. The usefulness of the work carried out during this visit and the importance of strengthening the fraternal friendship and political alliance between the USSR and the CSSR was noted. The conviction was expressed that the course toward restructuring and democratization is creating fundamentally new conditions for revealing the potential of Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation in various fields and for the spiritual drawing together of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

The CPSU Central Committee Politboro approved the results of Comrade Gorbachev's conversation and Comrade Ryzhkov's talks with Messner, member of the Politburo of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the PPR Council of Ministers, who was in the USSR on a working visit. The accords reached during the visit create good preconditions for raising the effectiveness of integrational ties on the basis of deep industrial and technological coproduction and the broad use of new progressive forms of economic cooperation. Note was made at the session of the importance of stepping up efforts toward implementing the tenets of the Soviet-Polish declaration on cooperation in ideology, science, and culture, which was signed in April 1987. It was emphasized that, in order to further consolidate the fraternal friendship between the CPSU and the PZPR and the peoples of the two countries and to develop and improve the whole complex of Soviet-Polish relations, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to Poland will be of fundamentally important significance.

The session heard information about Comrade Gorbachev's meeting, as well as the conversations had by Comrades Gromyko and Dobrynin, with Brandt, chairman of the Socialist International, and honorary chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany. It was noted that the interaction between the CPSU and the Socialist International, and between Communists, Social-Democrats and other left wing and democratic forces in Europe, is capable of imparting a constructive boost to discussing and seeking political solutions to such problems as disarmament, ensuring genuine pan-European cooperation, North-South relations, and regional conflicts.

The Politburo approved the results of Comrade Gorbachev's conversation, as well as the talks had by Comrades Shevardnadze and Dobrynin, with Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who was in Moscow on a short working visit. It reaffirmed the correct nature of the approach to solving the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of the new political thinking and the principle of ensuring the balance of interests of all sides and seeking constructive and mutually acceptable solutions to all aspects of the conflict. In noting that more favorable prospects are now taking shape for achieving a comprehensive Near East settlement, the Politburo pointed out the need for a further increase of efforts, including within the UN framework, to ensure the speediest convocation of an international conference on the Near East.

The results of the participation by the Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Zaykov in the events staged in Finland in connection with the 40th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance were examined. It was emphasized that the experience of Soviet-Finnish cooperation, which has accumulated during the 40 years the treaty has been in force, is a weighty contribution by our countries and peoples to the efforts of the international community aimed at building a nuclear-free and non-violent world. The results of Comrade Zaykov's conversations with President Koivisto of Finland and other Finnish leaders and representatives of the public and political and business circles of that country were approved.

Certain other questions of the development of the Soviet economy and the strengthening of international cooperation were also discussed at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Bows to Criticism

PM151157 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 15 April 1988 in its First Edition carries on page 3 under the headline "The Party is Marching at the Head of Restructuring. 'Principles of Restructuring: Revolutionary Nature of Thinking and Acting' (PRAVDA, 5 April 1988)" a full page feature comprising a 1,000-word "Excerpts from Letters" section, followed by a 2,000-word letter from Candidate of Historical Sciences L. Ryanskiy, lecturer at the Kursk Teacher Training Institute History of the USSR Department, under the headline "Morality is Truth." This in turn is followed by another 1,000-word "Excerpts from Letters" section and a 2,000-word "From the Editorial Office" conclusion.

All the letters quoted are critical of Nina Andreyeva and the views she expressed in her "I Cannot Waive Principles" letter to the editorial fffice, published by SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 13 March 1988.

"The way I see it," L. Ryanskiy writes, "the party tasks set for historians presuppose demonstration of the real scale and the genuine proportion of achievements as well as of mistakes and failures."

Part of the letter by Candidate of Juridical Sciences V. Tirskiy, CPSU member since 1969 and writing from Tomsk, quoted in the second "Excerpts from Letters" section, reads as follows:

"In my view, the renewal of socialism is simply unimaginable without an intensive and rapid renewal of party apparatus cadres at all levels. And the intensity of this renewal must increase in step with the increasing intensity of changes in life. The apparatus must offer a proper reflection of life, and therefore it must be constantly reinforced with people coming from 'the thick of restructuring,' directly from labor collectives. In my view therefore, having spent 5 years in office, party workers could return to the labor collective and compete [konkurirovat] from there for any party office like everybody else. All positions in the party apparatus must be filled by election. Elections of top leaders by all party members. If the 19th party conference were to make such a decision, it would considerably advance the cause of the struggle against party bureaucratism.

"Another proviso: I think that those who actively struggled for the ideas of restructuring during the years of stagnation must be more intensively promoted to party work. But they are the ones whom the bureaucrat fears most of all, not letting them get anywhere to this very day. There are still no social guarantees of equality for all; the advantage is enjoyed by those who were in power before—they are better organized and informed, they are quite solidly protected against personal liability by the system of existing appointments.

"Society is thus the loser, while the party functionary—not such a rare species, alas—has quickly started manipulating restructuring 'to suit himself.'

"I think that it is especially necessary to identify those people who, even during the period of stagnation, submitted bold proposals, were not afraid of losing their 'seats,' and fought for the ideas of restructuring in harder times, like genuine revolutionaries. It is on them that we must bank. 'Surely, by scraping the rust of bureaucratism off the values, ideals, and principles of socialism...,' PRAVDA wrote in its editorial article, 'we are releasing the best constructive forces for the struggle for socialism, for our values and our ideals?' Of course we are releasing them. And the sooner this is done, the better for society.

"If the mechanism of 'edict' leadership is to wither away, this must occur within the party earlier than anywhere else. But in order to achieve this there is no need to 'protect' cadres whose work methods are obsolete; they must learn democracy primarily and directly at labor collectives—in the frontline of the struggle for restructuring."

The feature ends with the following boxed conclusion headlined "From the Editorial Office":

"Letters. Letters. The flow of letters swells with each passing day. Now that restructuring is affecting the interests of all society and of every person, discussions on its objectives and tasks, on its essence, have developed with renewed force. Everyone wants to understand what is happening in our life, to find his place in the revolutionary transformations, to make his contribution to them, or to express himself on something that he has not yet accepted with his mind and his heart.

"Vivid confirmation of this is provided by the impassioned argument which flared up after our newspaper published N. Andreyeva's long letter entitled 'I Cannot Waive Principles' under the 'Polemics' rubric. The PRAVDA editorial article entitled 'Principles of Restructuring: The Revolutionary Nature of Thinking and Acting' gave a powerful impetus to the most topical conversation about which principles and values ought to be considered truly socialist and, ultimately, about how our society should develop.

"Readers want to know: How did our editorial collective view the PRAVDA article? What conclusions are being drawn?

"The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Editorial Collegium examined the article 'Principles of Restructuring: Revolutionary Nature of Thinking and Acting' at one of its sessions and fully agreed with the critical assessments, propositions, and conclusions contained in it. It was recognized that a lack of responsibility and considered approach was displayed while the letter 'I Cannot Waive Principles' was being prepared for press, even though it leads us all away from the revolutionary renewal of society on the basis of democracy and glasnost.

"Our party newspaper's entire creative collective never has had, does not have, and cannot have any guidelines and objectives other than those indicated with the utmost definiteness by the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress, stipulations by subsequent Central Committee plenums, and party resolutions. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA always strives to actively propagandize the innovative and essentially revolutionary ideas of restructuring and to utilize all journalistic opportunities to unmask negative phenomena which retard social renewal.

"The newspaper's attention is focused on the trailblazers, the foremen [proraby] of restructuring—on people whose personal energy broke through the front of stagnation and launched large-scale transforming processes in the spheres of economic and social development and of Soviet society's spiritual life. Their example enables readers to perceive how difficult it is to overcome routine, the diverse bureaucratic obstacles, the overt and covert resistance to change.

"Genuine enthusiasts of restructuring have also appeared on our pages as our regular contributors. People who have their sensitive finger on the pulse of the time, who are themselves working directly along key avenues, have written vivid and profound articles which have helped and are helping to introduce the ideas of revolutionary transformation among the broad mass of our readers. It is no accident that SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA is today known as the newspaper of writer Ivan Vasilyev and construction industry worker Nikolay Travkin, of economist Academician Leonid Abalkin and kolkhoz movement figures Vasiliy Starodubtsev and Mikhail Bagin, of machine tool builder Vladimir Kabaidze and teacher Zakhar Gelman, of agronomist Tamara Vorontsova and medical worker Gavriil Ilizarov. The list of names enjoying the highest prestige in restructuring can go on and on.

"In addition to our regular contributors, we have time and again turned to the mail that has arrived in the last few weeks. Let us be blunt, nobody has taken a stance of indifference. Readers argue and express perplexity, they exactingly take us to task and express fears of the disappearance from the newspaper's pages of topical subjects and rubrics which they have come to like.... Different opinions have been expressed. But the main unifying thought is: All readers energetically support restructuring. The letter writers are unanimous in their persistent desire to render restructuring irreversible, to sweep away more swiftly all the barriers which hold back the creative quest and initiative of the masses.

"We return time and again to the interpretation of these, to use Lenin's words, 'truly human documents.' But for now let us share a fundamental thought. An analysis of the mail that has been received makes totally evident the existence of a large area of 'blank spots' in readers' consciousness, as well as perplexity and confusion in some people's minds. At times this is the result of the fact that people are simply unaware of the new approaches or have failed to master the new ways to solve various problems. This offers us journalists an extremely broad field for action in ideological and educational work. Today it is not enough to just announce that you are 'in favor of' restructuring. It is necessary for you personally to seriously study, to meticulously and profoundly penetrate the essence of the processes which are occurring, to scrupulously analyze them, and to vividly and convincingly show in the newspaper the things that work in favor of the revolutionary transformation of society's life and the things that throw wrenches in the works of restructuring, the things that unite people and the things that introduce discord. And PRAVDA was quite correct in saying: 'Unity of creative forces—despite all the shades of opinion—is more necessary than ever when such unity is the prime requirement of restructuring and an absolute necessity simply for normal life, work, and the constructive renewal of society.'

"Of course, we must not allow the discussion which has been launched to lead some people to the conclusion that the newspaper will cease offering its pages to polemically acute material. You, comrade readers, have already gotten used to the fact that every issue of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA opens with the now traditional rubric 'Our Dialogue.' We publish under this rubric reflections by current affairs writers and economic managers, figures active in science and culture, party workers and specialists from various sectors, on the most topical problems. The topics for articles in the newspaper's 'Red Corner' are prompted, as a rule, by your written and verbal communications with the editorial office. A direct and frank conversation with the reader has been, is, and will be the main genre of our party newspaper.

"The mail we receive nowadays demands more activeness on our main topics and rubrics and prompts subjects for new material. Particular interest is shown in the course of preparations for the 19th all-union party conference. Readers place great hopes in it and expect it to answer the most vital questions. Many proposals are being submitted on the radical restructuring of party and state work. The task of demarcating the functions of party, soviet, and economic organs is being urgently raised. Letter writers express alarm at the still slow and timid advance by the process of democratization of our production and social life. The administrative edict style of leadership is unwilling to yield all its positions. Bureaucratism is still to be overcome in the activity of the party, soviet, and departmental apparatus. There is a need for a review of various instructions and norms regulating the work of both elected party organs and primary organizations. Many of the questions could be resolved without actually waiting for the conference. It is necessary to participate actively in elaborating ideas whose implementation would enrich all party life. And for every party organization, in the specific conditions of its activity, must make its contribution to solving the fundamental tasks of restructuring. Party topics and preparation for the conference already occupy a leading position in the newspaper, but now they must be presented even more strongly.

"Another leading topic is the implementation of radical economic reform. Dissatisfaction with its progress is still a central theme in the mail, with more and more new obstacles being named which hold back the initiative of labor collectives and the development of enterprise by leaders of enterprises and organizations in industry and the agro-industrial complex. At times it is impossible to fully utilize even the rights granted by the Law on the State Enterprise, since quite a few conservative instructions and methodologies are in operation at the same time. There are difficulties in mastering economic methods of management and in the transition to full economic accountability, self-capitalization, and self-financing. Moods of dependence are strong among leaders and specialists. People are beginning to get involved in common affairs through glasnost, democracy, economic accountability, and contracts. This is not to everyone's liking, it does not suit everyone. And readers perceive the newspaper as a reliable aide in affirming their stance on restructuring.

"The recent kolkhoz members' congress painted an impressive panorama of the development of cooperative principles in agriculture, and not just in agriculture. A return to Lenin's principles of the cooperative system offers broader opportunities for supplementing the country's food and commodity resources and rebuilding and qualitatively renewing life. There are reasonable complaints against us that newspaper correspondents often act as no more than recorders of events, as sources of information. The time has now come to get down to a serious journalistic analysis of the processes involved in cooperative activities.

"It is indisputable that the topic of education and the implementation of the reform of education demand much greater attention.

"Restructuring has also sharpened the interest in our country's history. The newspaper has carried honest and frank articles by eminent historians on acute questions like the history of the kolkhoz movement, the creation of the Red Army, the upholding of the democratic principles of socialist building, and the political discussions in the twenties and thirties, and these articles have generated extremely broad interest. There are heated arguments around the names of individual personalities. In order to help the readers in assimilating the truthful and scientifically verified history of the fatherland, the newspaper intends to continue the line begun by the 'Correspondence on Historical Topics' and to publish specific pages reproducing valuable documents.

"'The ideological backup for restructuring is currently assuming paramount importance,' M.S. Gorbachev emphasized in his speech to leadership workers in Uzbekistan. 'This is precisely why it was necessary to raise this question so sharply at the Central Committee February plenum. We came back to it also at the all-union congress of kolkhoz members. Quite recently it was covered by PRAVDA's well known article published 5 April.' The entire work of a party newspapers consist of direct participation in providing ideological backup for restructuring. We perceive the struggle for its lofty goals as a vital directive for us, as our party and professional duty."

PRAVDA Editorial Views Journalists' Duty

PM141135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 88 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Journalist's Duty; Loyalty to the Truth of Life Is His Professional Duty"]

[Text] Never has the journalist's word enjoyed such attention as today. "Did you read?", "Did you see?', "Did you hear?"—these questions are to be heard all over the place. People are thinking, arguing, expressing indignation and joy. And it is natural that in the past 3 years there has been a rapid increase in the circulation of periodical publications and television and radio have acquired an incomparably larger number of viewers and listeners. The press is rightly being called the platform of democracy and glasnost, a vivid and effective means of restructuring.

The journalists' words are taking an active part in the good changes in the country. They are making a great contribution to purging routine and stagnation, to asserting an atmosphere of criticism, initiative, and quest, to the process of democratization, and to implementing economic reform. By involving readers, viewers, and listeners in common concerns, the press makes them think, reflects public opinion, and leads to action. The press and television, M.S. Gorbachev noted at the CPSU Central Committee February Plenum, are aiming the spotlight of glasnost at those who deliberately or through thoughtlessness and inability are opposing and impeding restructuring. They support enthusiasts, disseminate their experience, and protect from injustice those who have flung themselves wholeheartedly into working in the new way, who are not afraid to make mistakes in a genuine matter, who take risks, and who have felt themselves personally responsible for ensuring that restructuring gathers momentum.

At the new stage of restructuring the priority tasks facing journalists are defined as follows. Helping the further democratization of our life and mastering economic methods of management. Seeking out and supporting everything new and progressive. Being on the side of those who are moving restructuring and moving our society along the path of renewal. The press should have a particularly impressive say in the course of preparation for the 19th party conference: How is restructuring processing, what is it teaching, and what conclusions and amendments are needed here?

The journalists of the central, republican, and local papers are elaborating the major problems of economic and social development and revealing new experience boldly and profoundly and creatively. Millions of television viewers and readers liked the bright light of the "Spotlight of Restructuring" and the keen, constructive items in CHELYABINSKIY RABOCHIY, VECHERNYY VOLGOGRAD, the Novorossiysk city newspaper, and a number of other publications. But the changes have not yet reached many local newspapers. Their employees are obviously lacking above all the qualities of fighters. Readers rightly criticize KRYMSKAYA PRAVDA for its timidity and complaisance. The editorial office staffers themselves fail to display principledness in raising socially important problems, seldom print working people's letters, and emasculate words of criticism even when they come from the speeches delivered by party committee plenum participants. To all appearances such a "toothless" press organ completely suits the Crimean Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom. Well, it is not for nothing that it is said that the newspaper is the face of the party committee.

At the USSR Journalists Union board plenum there was a heated discussion of press workers' responsibility and competence. The wave of renewal has raised the press high on its crest. Any drastic exposure and each persuasive word has been warmly welcomed among readers and viewers. But once restructuring had resolutely started to go deeper—then the sketchiness and lack of foundation of some journalists' knowledge, their alienation from life, their inability to assess and analyze the dynamics of the nascent processes were immediately revealed. Today press workers need to upgrade their arms—ideologically, morally, and professionally. This is also stated in the numerous comments supporting PRAVDA's editorial article "Principles of Restructuring: The Revolutionary Nature of Thinking and Actions."

The weapon of the word is a mighty weapon. The personal responsibility of the journalist and editor is great! Glasnost is incompatible with half-truth, with its use to settle personal accounts and satisfy someone's ambitions. The word is a great thing, the meeting with leaders of the mass media at the CPSU Central Committee noted, but it must not be used to the detriment of principledness. He who is not drawn in this direction, he who wants to divert us and drive us onto a different path, he who wants to throw a completely different fuel onto the "bonfire of restructuring," should know that this will not work. A journal, publishing house, or newspaper are not someone's personal business, but the business of the entire party and people.

Glasnost is making heightened demands on journalists. Professional competence and the honest, even scrupulous treatment of the facts is not a virtue but a duty for the journalist. Each word of his should be reliable. But some writers, without the necessary knowledge, give superficial assessments of present and past events and allow errors and inaccuracies and restrict themselves to half-truth. Readers are unanimous: Cliquishness or even instances of overt speculation to gain phony popularity through a publication should not sprout on the soil of openness and criticism.

Some writers have flung themselves into the chase after sensations. One describes "flying saucers," another "the abominable snowman." Journalistic frivolity in covering medical problems is intolerable, as the press conference at the USSR Ministry of Health recently noted. Thus, after publications extolling "katreks" as a cure for cancer many people started to hope. Alas, this hope is so far unjustified. This has been confirmed by clinical trials of the preparation. Understandably, such irresponsibility on the part of correspondents makes people feel like protesting.

Blows to glasnost and restructuring are dealt by lack of care and lack of conscientiousness in preparing items for publication. Party and journalists' organizations must not leave unheeded instances of the distortion of the truth, dishonesty, and even unscrupulousness on the part of some writers. The All-Union Council on Ethics and Law which has just been created under the USSR Journalists Union should perform an important role in the struggle for the strict observance of the norms of professional morality.

Restructuring is also under way in the press. It means purging the negative load of the past, renouncing unsuitable decrepit means, and improving journalists' responsibility, competence, and professional skill. The party reminds journalists again and again of their duty to take a selfless part in social renewal and of the main thing to which they are called on to devote their intelligence and talent: strengthening the people's morale and supporting their struggle for restructuring. Acting while "checking their watches" against life.

Sakharov: Gorbachev Deems Changes Not Socialism

PM150804 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 12 Apr 88 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Sakharov Tells Italian Parliamentarians: 'Gorbachev Convinced This Cannot Be Called Socialism'"]

[Text] Moscow—The Italian parliamentary delegation currently visiting the Soviet Union spoke at length with Andrey Sakharov and a group of dissidents at two meetings at the Italian embassy in Moscow. "Gorbachev has privately expressed the opinion that what currently exists in the USSR cannot be defined as socialism," the scientist said.

"In fact for the past 2 years we have been witnessing innovations; some things have changed; something called glasnost has emerged, which means we are able to read in the papers that which was formerly unthinkable." This was said by Andrey Sakharov. He recited the following popular rhyme: "Now there is glasnost, but glasnost will lose; the KGB will note the names of those of us who have supported glasnost." The scientist cited it to explain many people's state of mind—a mixture of confidence and skepticism, hope and anxiety. Sakharov was seated in a room at the Italian Embassy, where he was invited with Yelena Bonner. With the aid of interpreters, he described the USSR today to Flaminio Piccoli [Christian Democratic Party chairman], Gian Carlo Pajetta [Italian Communist Party Directorate member], Margherita Boniver (Italian Socialist Party), Oscar Luigi Scalfaro (Christian Democratic Party), Massimo Teodori (Radical), Ettore Masina (Independent Left), Gerolamo Pellicano (Italian Republican Party), and Anna Maria Serafini (Italian Communist Party). The Italian parliamentary delegation spoke with him for 2 hours and spent a similar length of time with Lev Timofeyev, founder of the magazine REFERENDUM; dissident cleric Aleksandr Ogorodnikov; and "refuseniks" Tatyana Zieman and Vladimir Tufeld [last two names as published]. Both meetings took place unobstructed and openly, of course.

There are great expectations, Sakharov explained, because of the way Gorbachev's principles and ideas are being implemented, but people are not forgetting past disappointments, such as Khrushchev's failure and the experiment of the sixties. The fact remains, however, the Nobel prizewinner observed, that Gorbachev, unlike his predecessors, "explicitly states that the aim of restructuring is democracy and openness." According to the scientist, Gorbachev has privately expressed the opinion that what currently exists in the USSR cannot be defined as socialism.

Sakharov also discussed the Soviet proposal to hold an international human rights conference in Moscow and explained that he intends to stand by the two preconditions that he has always set—a complete withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the release of all prisoners of conscience. The issue of prisoners was also raised by other dissidents with whom the Italian delegation met. "They must all be released," Aleksandr Ogorodnikov and Lev Timofeyev said. The former, who spoke in favor of the Ukranian Uniate Greek Catholic Church's legalization, said that 300 people imprisoned for religious reasons have been released but that there are still 240 in labor camps and prisons. Piccoli was handed a list of their names. Tatyana Zieman and Vladimir Tufeld discussed the problems of emigration: The granting of visas, they said, still remains at the discretion of the individual official concerned, since there is no clear legislation on the subject.

All the dissidents with whom the Italian parliamentarians met acknowledged that a thorough process of regeneration has begun and is under way in the Soviet Union, though they pointed to its limitations and delays. Sakharov said that there is not yet complete glasnost "in the case of the most dramatic events" because people still "try to remain silent as long as possible. Much light is being shed on the past," the scientist added, "but some equally tragic situations remain unknown."

Solovyev Addresses Leningrad Obkom Plenum

PM141001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 88 Second Edition p 2

[Report by correspondents N. Volynskiy and V. Gerasimov: "Initiative Against Dogmas; Leningrad Communists Discuss CPSU Central Committee February Plenum Decisions"]

[Text] Leningrad—As has already been reported, a Leningrad party obkom plenum has discussed the tasks of backing up the present stage of restructuring with the ideology of renewal in the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February Plenum. An aktiv scientific and practical conference, a sociological study among the Communists, and the questionnaire proposed by the newspapers—all this preceded the plenum and enabled its participants to have a better idea of public opinion.

"Democratization and glasnost are being persistently asserted in collectives and in the activity of party and public organizations and the luster is disappearing from the allegedly homogenous reality. And in this situation it is only those party leaders who, by relying on healthy forces, know how to rebuff everything preventing advance to the set goals, who are capable of leading," Yu. F. Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad party obkom, noted, delivering the report at the plenum. "Ideological work has become the most important matter for every Communist and it is its level which determines the party organizations' combat capability today."

Turning to the data from the sociological study, the keynote speaker and speakers said that the past years have not elapsed in vain. Changes are noticeable everywhere. They are the result of growing exactingness toward cadres and intensified monitoring of the implementation of projected plans and working people's proposals. The consistency of actions is embodied in specific results. Economically accountable [khozraschetnyye] relations enhance the trend toward intensifying production in industry and agriculture. The management apparatus is being curtailed.

The positive processes could indeed develop more rapidly but for that we need the active improvement of ideological work, the resolute renewal of its content, and the rejection of impersonality, dogmatic ideas, and obsolete forms. If we are speaking in big terms, the Leningrad people are at the beginning of the path, and there is still a long way to go to a resolute breakthrough. During the recent reports of the elected party organs, Communists received thousands of critical comments and proposals and many were addressed personally to gorkom and raykom secretaries and bureau members. The activity of 27 bureaus was deemed unsatisfactory and 49 secretaries were replaced. But not all rayon and city organizations have yet succeeded in creating an atmosphere which accords with the goals of restructuring. Sometimes only apparatus work is improved and political methods of leadership are simulated.

For instance, good changes can be noted in the style of the Leninskiy party raykom. New, nonstandard approaches have appeared. But unfortunately they have little effect on the life of the primary party organizations and have only slight influence on the state of affairs in the collectives. Many gorkoms and raykoms are in this state. While calling for the expansion of grassroots autonomy, they often continue to tighten the administrative reins and belittle the role and authority of the primary organizations. This is not the best path; it is fraught with liabilities, particularly when the ideological aktiv does not keep pace with events or reacts belatedly to them and is unready to head restructuring. Yet its function is to consider past and present events in their entirety and dialectical contradictoriness and to bring people the real truth, said S. Merkuryev, rector of Leningrad University; N. Savelyeva, weaver at the "Rabochiy" factory, N. Skatov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Russian Literature, and others. Deviation from scientific principles leads to dogmatism and a distorted assessment of the past and present. The article "Principles of Restructuring: The Revolutionary Nature of Thought and Actions" printed in PRAVDA draws Communists' attention to this yet again. There was mention of this item's fundamental importance and it was actively supported by the plenum participants.

Serious complaints were levelled against the social scientists. In recent years they have unfortunately failed to provide truly profound new ideas in research into socioeconomic problems and on the development of society's self administration on the basis of democratic principles. The party committees today must pay special attention to the selection and education of propaganda cadres and give priority to their competence and prestige in the collectives. The Leningrad press, radio, and television are actively assisting restructuring in various genres. In all cases the printed word must be topical, accurate, and considered. A thoughtless and sometimes tendentious item addressed to readers and television viewers merely compromises glasnost, N. Korablev, secretary of the Vasileostrovskiy CPSU Raykom, said, turning to specific instances.

Changes can be noted in the life of the creative intelligentsia. Organizations for a cultural foundation and unions of theatrical figures and designers, a charitable association, and a musical association have been created. Writers, artistes, and artists are raising urgent questions. But often something different occurs—in the creative unions fruitful debates designed to serve creation are replaced with heated emotional passion and the clash of group interests. The older generation of masters unfortunately does not always feel responsible for the young replacement. For instance, even graduates of recent years awarded gold medals of the Academy of Arts have not been admitted to the Artists' Union.

In the economic, social, and spiritual renewal of society the main role belongs to man himself. His intellect and civic stance ultimately determine the dynamics of restructuring. The formation of the moral qualities of those who will take over from us is a very important function of the Soviet school. What changes for the better have there been here? What is still impeding movement? This was discussed thoroughly at the plenum by V. Bartnovskaya, director of school No 89, V. Nelyubov, secretary of the Lomonosovskiy CPSU Raykom, and Academician Zh. Alferov. This year, for instance, 50 percent more school buildings will be constructed than last year. And this tendency must be preserved in the future—education's material and technical base is in need of consolidation. In our concerns for it we must not overlook the main aim of the reorganization of public education: achieving the indissolubility of the training process for young specialists—in the school, VUZ, and vocational and technical college. That is why the party organizations, parents, the students themselves, their production mentors and above all the teachers must be drawn into the range of concerns for the school.

Every year the national economy receives over 70,000 specialists who have graduated from Leningrad schools. There is some experience in training them alongside production workers. At the same time difficult questions have accumulated. The program of specific actions adopted by the plenum is designed to promote their solution. Its implementation is a political task for all Communists.

Whichever facet of the overall problem the speakers touched on, they noted that the processes generated by restructuring are exerting a powerful influence on young people and are prompting them to vigorous actions. Apathy and intellectual dependence among young people are being driven out by democratic principles and glasnost, constructive criticism and self criticism. There is a desire to take a personal part in the transformations, even if not all young people yet have sufficient political maturity and even if the maximalism natural to their age is manifested.

In discussing problems of the ideology of renewal, the plenum participants linked them directly with the pace of implementing fundamental economic reform. Here too the field for applying effort is underdeveloped. The orientation toward uniformized groups of the population and a uniformized awareness, leveling down, and excessive administration have given rise to a special type of leader used to lack of responsibility and a low standard of labor organization, to "charity" at the state's expense.

Restructuring in the economy and society needs enterprising, bold people capable of nontraditional solutions. But, the plenum noted, the syndrome of bureaucratic caution is affecting virtually all spheres. In particular, to judge by reports, cooperative and individual activity is progressing: Over 1,000 cooperatives have been registered. But in the overall volume of services and commodities they account for...less than one percent! Yet in Kuybyshevskiy, Dzerzhinskiy, Tosnenskiy, and Volosovskiy rayons the local soviet ispolkoms are seeking pretexts to restrict cooperatives' normal activity.

Society's political system must be improved. With what will the Leningrad people mount the rostrum of the 19th all-union party conference? The speakers said that growing public activeness gives rich material for analysis and the elaboration of proposals which take into account the interests of various groups of the population, economic and social goals, and the need for further expansion of the principle of genuine people's power and the intensification of intraparty democracy. Answers to the questions posed by life itself must be sought in conjunction with people. Any undertaking useful to socialism, every crumb of experience, must serve restructuring.

In other words, its success and pace are now directly dependent on the standard of the revolutionary ideology of renewal and no one will remove from Communists the responsibility for its assertion in the Leningrad people's minds and actions.

'Information Report' on Tajik Party Meeting

PM141425 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 27 Mar 88 p 1

[TAJIKTA report: "Information Report on Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The routine Ninth Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Plenum took place on 26 March 1988 in Dushanbe.

Party obkom, gorkom, and raykom first secretaries, oblispolkom, gorispolkom, and rayispolkom chairmen, republic ministry and department chiefs and some of their party organization secretaries, VUZ rectors, individual technical college, vocational and technical school, and school directors, preschool establishment chiefs, scientists, senior officials of Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, Tajik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Council of Ministers organs, the republic People's Control Committee, the Tajik Trade Union Council, the Tajik Komsomol Central Committee, and representatives of the media and propaganda took part in the plenum's work.

The plenum discussed the questions:

1. "On the Progress of Reform in General Educational, Vocational, and Higher Schools and the Republic Party Organization's Tasks in Implementing It."

2. "On the Growth of the CPSU in 1987 and the Republic Party Organization's Structure."

K.M. Makhkamov, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, gave the report on the first question on the agenda.

The following took part in discussing the report: A. Saidova, party organization secretary of the Dushanbe No 46 Secondary School; V.Ya. Oplanchuk, director of the Leninabad Construction Combine; T.N. Nazarov, rector of the V.I. Lenin Tajik State University; A. Gurezov, team leader of the Baypazinskaya GES Komsomol team; I.Ye. Karlovich, director of the Dushanbe No 21 Secondary School; Ye.I. Timoshenkova, party bureau secretary and chief of the children's rheumatology department of the No 3 Republican Clinical Hospital; A.R. Rashidov, Tajik SSR minister of education; V.Kh. Khodzhiyev, first secretary of Frunze party raykom; I. Safarov, chairman of the V.I. Lenin Kolkhoz in Kumsangirskiy Rayon and member of the V.I. Lenin Soviet Children's Fund Board; V.B. Akhadov, chief director of the V.V. Mayakovskiy State Russian Drama Theater; N.G. Savchenkov, chief of the "Rogungesstroy" Construction Administration; K.P. Pulatov, Tajik SSR minister of internal affairs; M.R. Rakhimova, secretary of the Kurgan-Tyube party obkom; and B.A. Vasilyev, chairman of the Tajik SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education.

The following took part in the exchange of views on the question discussed, using microphones set up in the hall: N.P. Kimsanova, teacher at Dushanbe's No 34 Secondary School; A. Azizov, teacher at the Isfara No 29 Secondary School; V.M. Ivanov, trolleybus administration driver and chairman of Dushanbe's No 82 Secondary School parents' committee; R.N. Loktionova, party organization secretary of the Garmskiy Rayon No 1 Secondary School; M.A. Abdullayev, director of the Kanibadam Technical College; V.I. Pripisnov, rector of the Tajik Russian Language and Literature Pedagogical Institute; O.K. Katayev, republic minister of trade; Ye.A. Bazhenov, first secretary of Kulyab party gorkom; M.A. Shadyyeva, secretary of the Tajik Komsomol Central Committee; and B.F. Rakhimova, secretary of Leninabad party obkom.

K.M. Makhkamov, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, gave the concluding address at the plenum.

A corresponding resolution was adopted on the question discussed.

A video on the problems of reforming the republic's general educational, vocational, and higher schools was shown to the plenum's participants.

Yu.Ye. Sukhov, chief of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department, provided information "On the Growth of the CPSU in 1987 and the Structure of the Republic Party Organization."

A corresponding resolution was adopted by the plenum on this question.

The plenum examined organizational questions.

The plenum transferred from candidate to full membership of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee R. Binomshoyeva, teacher at the Rushanskiy Rayon No 7 Secondary School; A.B. Karakulov, chief of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department; R.T. Kodyrov, tractor driver at the "50-Letiye SSSR" Kolkhoz in Nauskiy Rayon; and Ye.I. Timoshenkova, chief of the pediatric rheumatology department of the republic's No 3 Clinical Hospital.

S. Khasanov, former first secretary of Kulyab party obkom, was expelled from the CPSU for abusing his official position and for committing criminal offenses.

Information on progress in implementing critical comments and proposals put forward at the Eighth Plenum of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee and on the plenum resolution on "The Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Bureau Report on Work on the Leadership of Restructuring in the Republic" was distributed to the plenum participants.

N.I. Osipov, sector chief in the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Establishments Department, took part in the plenum's work.

The Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Plenum completed its work at this point.

Refuzniks Demonstrate, 'Quickly Arrested'

AU141709 Paris AFP in English 1659 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Moscow, April 14 (AFP)—Seventeen Soviet Jews whose requests for immigration to Israel have been refused, staged a demonstration in downtown Moscow Thursday and were quickly arrested, eyewitnesses said. The demonstrators, who said their requests had been made up to 10 years ago, gathered in front of the Lenin Library wearing yellow Stars of David and holding up placards bearing their demands. [passage omitted]

Broadcasting to Nagorno-Karabakh Described

LD150045 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] As you know, comrades, a program has been adopted for the acceleration of the socioeconomic development of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of Azerbaijan for 1988 and 1989. Our radio listeners ask what is specifically being done.

One of the chief areas is the development of communications, improving the extent to which the population is informed. Here, television and radio are irreplaceable. This reportage by our correspondent Sergey Amelchenko from the USSR Ministry of Communications is about these forms of mass media in Nagorno-Karabakh:

[Amelchenko] Here, in front of me is a plan of the entire system of communications in Nagorno-Karabakh. The town of Shusha is where the main radio broadcasting stations are situated. Around it, marked by shading, is the zone of reliable reception of television and radio broadcasting. And if this was somewhere in the Central Russian uplands this zone would be a perfect circle, but here is an intricate shape with winding edges. It has long been known that mountains impede the the passage of radio waves; and therefore, in Aterk, (Mitshen) Gadrut and Martuni—large populated centers in the oblast—relay lines and Moskva satellite dish receivers have been installed.

So how does this equipment fill the requirements of the oblast for information? I set this question to Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Varbanskiy, chief of the directorate of the USSR Ministry of Communications.

[Begin recording] [Varbanskiy] At present two television channels are received in Nagorno-Karabakh: the Central Television first channel and the the Azerbaijan Republic channel. Immediate plans envisage the installation of additional transmitters in order to relay Central Television's second channel and the Armenian television channel broadcast from Yerevan.

[Amelchenko] And apart from this, a studio is being built in Stepanakert for local television and radio broadcasting. Alexandr Mikhaylovich, what is the radio broadcasting situation like in this mountainous oblast?

[Varbanskiy] At present three channels of Central Radio are received, as well as two channels of Azerbaijan national radio broadcasting. Moreover, a locally made 2-hour program in Armenian is included on an Azerbaijan radio channel. Immediate plans envisage the installation of additional transmitters for relaying programs in Armenian received from Yerevan.

[Amelchenko] Aleksandr Mikhaylovich, do you think this quantity of equipment will actually ensure good and reliable broadcasting in such difficult mountainous conditions?

[Varbanskiy] Mountainous conditions, of course, have their own specific features in the sense that there are many small villages situated in ravines, to which it is rather difficult to transmit programs. Of course, in the future, programs will mainly be fed there via satellite communications lines. At present, satellite channels are used for relaying central television's first and second channels and will subsequently also be used for republican channels. [end recording]

[Amelchenko] Aleksandr Mikhaylovich did not mention only the difficulties with the equipment for implementing the program for developing communications in Nagorno-Karabakh. Here, it seems to me that a whole series of ministries must apply their efforts, and above all, the Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry, the Ministry of the Radio Industry and (?Minelektronprom) and other departments which can help in this matter. And apart from all the technical problems, I think it would be a good idea to arrange an exchange of the most important and interesting programs especially for this mountainous oblast.

Nagorno-Karabakh Events, Coverage Reviewed

PM141043 Moscow MOWCOW NEWS in English No 14, 3 Apr 88 p 4

[Article "based on press reports and reports by 'MN' correspondents:" "Alarming Weeks. Mass Media on Events in Nagorno-Karabakh and Around It"]

[Text] Looking through the February and March newspapers, it is possible to arrive at the conclusion that the most quiet period was the end of February. The national newspapers and the Armenian and Azerbaijani press published letters about the friendship of peoples and the heroic achievements of workers and collective farmers of both republics. There were no reports about meetings and marches in Yerevan, where hundreds of thousands of people went out into the streets. The papers of Sumgait did not publish a single line about the massacres and outrages committed in the city. For safety and protection thousands of people turned to the soldiers who had entered the city—but we learned about this only later, from Moscow papers.

The silence of the first days made people distrust the press. There were also some publications that can only be called irresponsible.

The paper MOLODEZH AZERBAYDZHANA (YOUTH OF AZERBAIJAN) wrote about people who "started to incite people to demand secession of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region (NKAR) from Azerbaijan", and called them "scum...trying to drive a wedge between our friendly peoples." The author of these lines spoke in the same tone about the people's deputies who raised the sore problem at the session of the regional soviet.

Participants in one of the TV programmes about the tragic events in Sumgait made conclusions which it is only in the court's competence to make, placing the guilt for the outrages on young teenagers who had got out of hand.

Two weeks after the horrible events, in an interview to the newspaper BAKINSKY RABOCHIY, Aleksandr Katusev, deputy procurator-general of the USSR said: "Sumgait is one of the cities in the country with the biggest number of nationalities. But, so far, we have not seen any real internationalism" resulting from this multi-ethnic situation. Asked about how the investigations were going, he replied: "Mass disturbances accompanied by pogroms, arson and other outrages took place in Sumgait. Taking into account the danger these actions represent for society, the deputy procurator-general has put them in the category of state crimes, to be severely punished. But during these disturbances hooliganist elements committed murders for which the law envisages still more severe measures." Aleksandr Katusev assured that full investigations into the crimes were being carried out and that all people involved were being tried.

Publications by journalists were based on official reports: information about the plenary meetings of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of Armenia and Azerbaijan and about the meeting at the CPSU Central Committee, which discussed Nagorno-Karabakh and events around it; about the sessions of the presidiums of the supreme soviets of the union republics, which voiced concern about developments in the region, the resolution of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet "On Measures Connected with the Appeal of the Union Republics with Regard to the Events in Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan and Armenia."

With March 29 approaching, the flow of reports from Armenia and Azerbaijan increased. This, it was feared, might be the critical day. The Karabakh Organizing Committee, set up in Armenia, which had become a mass-scale unofficial organization, called on people to go in to the streets on that day and demonstrate their support for the handing over of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region to Armenia.

Measures had to be taken to normalize the situation.

The report "At the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia", published in the newspaper KOMMUNIST on March 23, reads: "Despite the work carried out by the city and district committees and primary party organizations to fulfil instructions contained in the appeal by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the workers and peoples of Azerbaijan and Armenia, and despite the resolutions of the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia, the situation in the republic remains tense and explosive.... The meeting in Yerevan, announced for March 26, may aggravate the situation and have unpredictable consequences. The tragic events in Sumgait have seriously aggravated the situation. A total of 2,364 people from 595 families have come from Sumgait and other areas of Azerbaijan. Conjecture and various provocative rumours only help continue the flow of Azerbaijanians leaving the republic.

"The city and district party committees, primary party organizations of enterprises, institutions, departments and educational establishments have not shown sufficient persistence and consistency in this situation."

Today much is being said about the new programme for Nagorno-Karabakh, but one very interesting statement came from the IZVESTIYA correspondent who interviewed Vladimir Lakhtin, first vice-chairman of the Bureau of the USSR Council of Ministers for Social Development, who worked on the economic and social development programme for the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region.

"We put much emphasis on the material sphere, which might require up to 400 million roubles," said the journalist, as soon as his companion started outlining the measures to improve the region's economy. "But in their demands many inhabitants of Nagorno-Karabakh put much greater emphasis on the spiritual factor, on the need to establish broader, closer and free contacts with Armenia."

The programme envisages the promotion of such contacts. Taking into account the wishes of the inhabitants of the region, the programme includes provision of TV broadcasts in Armenian, the restoration of historical and cultural monuments and increasing publication of books in Armenian. The system of school education in the region will be revised, more young people from Nagorno-Karabakh will be admitted to the higher educational establishments of Armenia.

Reports on the NKAR development programme were published by the papers on the eve of the critical day—March 26, awaited with much anxiety. At the same time it was reported that the Karabakh Committee had been disbanded after a decision by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Armenia. Even before that many of the committee's primary organizations at enterprises, institutions and educational establishments announced that they had disbanded of their own accord. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan SSR decided to disband the Krunk Society. This was an essential measure in such an atmosphre as described by Sergey Averintsev, Vyacheslav Ivanov, Venyamin Kaverin and Mikhail Ulyanov in an open letter:

"We are gripped with anxiety, emotion and even horror over what happened in Armenia and Azerbaijan and what is still happening. Forgive us if this letter is more emotional than rational—in terms of presenting a solution. We are shaken by the bloodshed of the past few weeks. We know that there were women and children among the victims....

"What really matters is that no more people suffer, that each of us has a sense of our personal responsibility for this...."

Hopes that people will display wisdom were not in vain: there has been much restraint. The stress caused by events around Nagorno-Karabakh is gradually abating.

The newspapers carry analytical articles. Their contribution to the understanding of what happened, to the normalization of the situation, is becoming ever more significant. But it will take quite a long time to correct the mistakes.

Western Attention on Nationalities Criticized

PM141039 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 14, 3 Apr 88 p 4

[Yuriy Bandura article: "Nagorno-Karabakh: Unkind Views From Sidelines"]

[Text] Judging from recent Western broadcasts beamed into the Soviet Union and recent Western newspapers and magazines received by the "MN" library, events in and around Nagorno-Karabakh have been a major focus of attention abroad. Far from unbiased attention.

"Things came to the boil as soon as the iron grip of the centre relaxed," says the Voice of Germany. "Throughout the 70 years that the Soviet state has been in existence, nationalist sentiments have withstood numerous and sometimes harsh attempts to quell them," the Voice of America rushes to conclude. The BBC tries to sell its listeners on an idea borrowed from the TIMES: "The solving of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem should (!) set a precedent for the other nationalities in the USSR, as well as the Poles, Lithuanians, Romanians, Moldavians, Ukrainians, Belorussians—in a word, to all who have experienced the recarving of their state borders firsthand."

There are even instances of direct incitement to "resolute action". Take the VOA broadcast March 24 which said: "The peoples of the 14 non-Russian republics will never rest till they win the genuine right for self-determination." This clearly amounts to a call: "Don't rest! Scatter! Tear the country to pieces!"

New thinking as something that can benefit international relations hasn't been around long but we already know that it works and that it does a lot of good. Events in and around Nagorno-Karabakh show, however, that as soon as difficulties develop in the Soviet Union, or some problem comes to a head, our Western partners try to throw us to the ground demonstrating thereby the essence of imperialist policy in all of its pristine or "classical" ungainliness. Rather than being a fussy campaign occasioned by the events, this is a policy, a strategic policy which is clearly seen in well-nigh every broadcast or press report from Western propaganda centres dealing with Soviet affairs.

The essence of this policy took shape long ago. It boils down to using complicated questions of relations between Soviet nations to first shake loose the cohesion of the Soviet state by encouraging nationalist elements and then to use national strife brought to the boil to partition the USSR.

Listening to Western broadcasts and reading Western papers and magazines one willy-nilly concludes that in Nagorno-Karabakh, the enemies of our country, vigorous opponents of the socialist system, have at last discerned a chance for reaching the goal formulated last year by the notorious French hater of the Soviets Besancon: "Europe and the rest of the world must offer the nations that make up the Soviet Union, and primarily the Russian people, acceptable prospects. The system will be dismantled by those nations themselves rather than by us." This is clearly an offer to us to dig our own graves. With active support from the sympathizers. Besancon wonders: "Why shouldn't the West hold out its hand to the nations that make up the Soviet Union? Why not assure, for example, the Baltic states, the Ukrainians, Georgians and Armenians that their place is in Europe and the Europe hasn't forgotten about them? Why shouldn't we let the Turks in Central Asia know that we see no legitimacy in the Soviet imperial system?"

As we can see, the hand is already being held out. It holds a torch. Not only for Nagorno-Karabakh, not only for Azerbaijan and Armenia. "When is the next uprising?" the French magazine L'EVENEMENT DU JEUDI asks its readers impatiently. "What other trials and tribulations are there in store for the Soviet Union?" And the magazine gives this answer: "The most terrible is still ahead. This is 50 million Moslems in Central Asia with the growing Islam fundamentalism among them, where a clandestine religious brotherhood is widely active and the mullahs are calling for a sacred war against the Soviet regime."

This is the kind of future being prepared for us by Western Sovietologists. They would like to see the Soviet Union riven by internal dissent and intercine struggle. This is as far as the future goes. But they never for a minute forget about today. Meaning Afghanistan of course.

As they carry out their strategy of encouraging nationalist sentiments in the Soviet Republics, the men and women in the Western corridors of power have become convinced that Islam fundamentalist is the most promising threat to the Soviet Union on its southern flank.

Montreal's THE GAZETTE maintains: The Ideas of Islamic fundamentalists in Iran and Afghanistan percolating through the Soviet border are preparing the soil for increased nationalism in the Turkmens, Uzbeks, Kirghizes, and Tajiks. From this it is only a short distance to the conclusion of one VOA broadcaster: "If Afghanistan has a regime similar to Islamic fundamentalism, the existence of this regime would present a continued problem for the USSR." All things considered, those who raise the question of "changing the government in Kabul" and thus drag out a political settlement of the Afghan problem are out to install such a regime.

News analysts the world over unanimously described as "unexpected" the raising of this "question" by Islamabad. But how unexpected was it when one recalls that Pakistan started to distance itself from positions agreed on in Geneva right after the events in Nagorno-Karabakh and later in Sumgait? I think there is a direct link: prospects of the worsening of relations between nationalities in Transcaucasia was taken by Washington and Islamabad as a chance to prevent the turning of Afghanistan into an independent, non-aligned state which has traditionally been our friendly neighbour. In this attempt they are even prepared to delay the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The return of life in Nagorno-Karabakh to normal, I think, would have some effect on the Geneva talks. And not only on them. The better the atmosphere inside our multinational home, the closer the ties of friendship that bring the nations of the Soviet Union into a single socialist community, the fewer the chances for those who would like to cash in on our difficulties inherited from the time preceding perestroyka and the more confidently will proceed perestroyka without which we are not likely to solve the accumulated questions of relations between nationalities.

Article Denies Perestroyka Like 'Prague Spring'

LD150158 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Can the events in Prague in the spring of 1968 be equated with the restructuring in the Soviet Union? Aleksandr Kondrashev examines this question in an article in the Moscow weekly EKHO PLANETY. Here are excerpts from the article:

Twenty years apart from each other, the two processes are comparable to a certain extent. The roots of the turning events in history, the full-scale meeting of the Czechoslovak Communist Party in January 1968, and the full-scale meeting of the Soviet Communist Party in April 1985 are similar. Many problems had piled up in both countries in the years that preceeded the events, problems that had to be solved without delay.

However, in Czechoslovakia, the communist leaders lost their control of the situation in the country. With their connivance, the antisocialist forces took over the press and launched a campaign to manipulate public opinion. The antisocialist forces openly planned to seize power. In July and August, the Czechoslovak news agency reported time and again that secret caches of arms in various parts of the country were found. According to THE SUNDAY TIMES of London, the counterrevolutionary units numbered some 40,000 armed men in August.

Aleksandr Kondrashev says that the crisis developing in Czechoslovakia and the need to resort to extreme measures in order to protect socialism there had negative consequences for the forces of progress. He recalls how Western propaganda capitalized on that. He also recalls the position of some communist parties in the West, which did not approve the introduction of troops into Czechoslovakia.

Generally, these are well-known things, Aleksandr Kondrashev says, and adds that we thought less of the consequences of the Czechoslovak events for our own country. He believes that they left a negative effect here, too. There was an apprehension, albeit not a strong one, in the minds of many people holding responsible posts that (?too broad) a democratization, too much of sharp criticism, and less of centralized control could lead to undesirable consequences similar to the Prague Spring.

In my opinion, Aleksandr Kondrashev points out, this is one of the main reasons why our own society lost the dynamic pace of development and slid into the period of stagnation. In the opinion of Aleksandr Kondrashev, no parallel can be drawn between the 1968 events in Czechoslovakia and the current restructuring process in the Soviet Union, nor can they be equated. The trends of political developments in the Soviet Union today and in Czechoslovakia 20 years ago are diametrically opposed. Those who are trying to discern a similarity between them now are viewing them from the wrong perspective.

Rome Paper Interviews OGONEK's Korotich

PM131312 Rome AVANTI! in Italian 6 APR 88 p 15

[Interview with OGONEK Editor Vitaliy Korotich by Libero Lizzadri in Rome; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] [Lizzadri] Like Khrushchev 30 years before him, Gorbachev too has had to confront Stalin. This confrontation cost Khrushchev dearly. Can Gorbachev be said to have tackled this problem differently?

[Korotich] Khrushchev bore the legacy of a Stalin regarded as a god on earth. Everything that emanated from Stalin was gospel. A great many "Stalinists" were honest people convinced that Stalin was a good god—respectable people who led honest lives, albeit in poverty ("a room and a bed.") Khrushchev's merit was that he created the spark of de-Stalinization, a spark that was not extinguished over 30 years. Of course it was only a beginning, but Khrushchev revealed a new outlook: He was the first leader that did not frighten people, even when he raised his voice or made a scene. Stalin was feared, even though he spoke quietly. Khrushchev was ultimately defeated by those who ideologically opposed his stances, whereas Gorbachev and his line are opposed by those defending personal interests. It should be added that Khrushchev carried out his revolution in a closed country that knew nothing about how the outside world lived. Once a glimpse of this world had been gained, however, the consequences of Stalinism became clearer.

Stalin issued a directive to attain the industrialized countries' potential within 10 years. The objective was achieved—at a very high price, including freedom. Now we need to take a further step, but Stalin's way is no longer feasible. Furthermore, looking at the results of Stalin's industrialization, we see that within a few months, the Germans appropriated a large slice of it: Who can say what could have been achieved with other methods, if the development had been more natural and harmonious and if the generals had not been shot? Gorbachev is now combating Stalin's legacy—a mentality—and of course he has an army of bureaucrats against him.

[Lizzadri] Speaking at the 8 January conference of newspaper editors Gorbachev said: "You cannot agree with those who suggest forgetting our history and using only part of it" and proceeded to stress the need to "correctly assess the difficult periods of our history." What did he mean by that remark?

[Korotich] Ours is a unique country. We do not have a history text book, as other countries do. In our country there are the pre- and post-Stalin periods, the pre- and post-Khrushchev periods, and so forth. It is as though they were different states. Gorbachev wants a logic in the study of history and wants its continuity to be understood. Let us say that Stalin was wicked, and so forth. Gorbachev wants past eras to leave to subsequent eras a legacy that must be taken into account. Gorbachev's enemies now say that the assessment of the past must highlight the victories achieved and not the repressions. However, the time has come to write about the black moments of our history.

[Lizzadri] At the same meeting Gorbachev said: "With regard to the Yeltsin case, let us not conceal from ourselves the fact that the party's opposition to that way of speaking has been perceived by part of the intelligentsia, and especially by youngsters, as a vicious blow to restructuring." Why did Yeltsin's replacement become a political issue?

[Korotich] The Yeltsin case demonstrates our inexperience in political life and thought. All our leaders have promised us short-term successes: This happened with Khrushchev and Brezhnev. Gorbachev is the first responsible politician for decades: He is promising results after 5-6 years of hard work. Many people want results right away, however: Society is tired and does not want to wait. Yeltsin found himself expressing this tiredness, this desire to do things quickly, immediately, and this political inexperience. All the more so since the conservatives are fanning the flames by saying that no good can come of restructuring. The important thing to stress about the Yeltsin case, however, is that for the first time an open opponent did not meet a nasty end, either shot, deported, or accused of belonging to an anti-party group. People watched carefully what would happen to Yeltsin after his replacement.

[Lizzadri] Again at the same meeting Gorbachev said: "It is unacceptable that in certain publications there is no apparent grief about what is happening. Sometimes the future of an enterprise or a man is dismissed too easily, even nonchalantly." He also said: "When people want to draw us toward bourgeois liberalism and to return to their own values, they are trying to make us turn back, backtrack." Do the stances referred to by Gorbachev carry any political weight?

[Korotich] We have indeed become very tough: The condemnations are harsh and the criticisms are vehement, but what is lacking are attempts to correct situations, the slightest indication of possible remedies, and a quest for a solution. This is the significance of Gorbachev's remarks: Criticize and denounce, but try also to give advice with a view to rebuilding.

[Lizzadri] There seems to have been a judicial rehabilitation of Bukharin. Will there also be a political rehabilitation of his political stances on collectivization? MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI's editor said in a recent interview that there must also be a judicial rehabilitation of Trotskiy and Beria. What is your opinion?

[Korotich] In my opinion, Beria was a bandit reminiscent of Himmler: There is nothing to rehabilitate. Of course the documents concerning Beria should be published. Perhaps I am being unfair—in any case I am not acquainted with these documents—but the fact is that Beria remains the symbol of how far "administrative socialism" can reach. As for Trotskiy, it is a different matter. I do not like him: As far as I am concerned, he was like Stalin; if he had prevailed he would have done more or less the same things. He too was for an administrative form of socialism; did not respect people, who he believed should only obey; he favored the militarization of society and the workers; and he hated the peasants, whom he regarded ultimately as socialism's enemies. The point is to dispel the myth surrounding Trotskiy, to publish his works, to recognize the sort of person he was, and for people not to regard him as a devil that should not be exorcized. It is a good thing that Trotskiy can now be read in the libraries and it will be seen that in fact his struggle with Stalin was a struggle for power and that his line was similar—so much so that Stalin implemented many of the things proposed and theorized by Trotskiy.

With regard to Bukharin, apart from his judicial rehabilitation, a commission is now at work on his political rehabilitation and his works will be published. It should be said, however, that his theoretical contribution is very limited. OGONEK has started publishing Bukharin's writings and at the meeting in question I defended my decision. Bear in mind also that we are now talking more about voluntary cooperation than Stalinist collectivization. Stalin and Trotskiy opted for obligatory collectivization, which separated peasants from their land, and the peasants stopped loving the land.

[Lizzadri] One of the emerging problems in the USSR is that of the nationalities. It seems to me that two kinds of opinions were expressed at the 27th CPSU Congress: to resume the policy of creating a good mix, starting with party cadres, or to directly confront the growing demands for autonomy. What is the situation now?

[Korotich] For decades we were the country where nothing happened: No airplanes crashed, no trains collided, no ships sank. And the nationalities did not have any problem coexisting. Now there is the new factor that linguistic, cultural, and other problems are combining with the economic problems. Kazakhstan is a typical example. But the nationalities' problems can and must also be tackled calmly, soberly, without exaggeration. On 25 February a group of intellectuals in Riga requested authorization to mark the anniversary of the time the Latvians were deported to Siberia by Stalin: The authorities banned the demonstration and threatened to bring in the police. The intellectuals met for the commemoration at a Riga cemetery. What did they say? That the deportations were illegal, which is true, and they voiced their faith in Gorbachev. The fact is that those opposed to restructuring want to resolve everything through administrative methods. The national issue does exist and it is pointless to sweep the dust under the carpet. It must be tackled calmly and democratically, taking account of the cultural and linguistic factor and also devoting the same attention to the economic factor—in other words, within the context of restructuring.

[Lizzadri] At the meeting in question Gorbachev made the following remarks: "Let us respect one another. Above all we must avoid attaching labels." "We must not deny anyone the right to express his own opinions." "The Soviet press is not a private business." Was the referring to OGONEK too?

[Korotich] Gorbachev was indeed referring to OGONEK as well. We now publish articles even by those who disagree with us. The fact is that we are not accustomed to the democratic method. For instance, I write an article and someone who disagrees with it does not write to the editorial office to protest and to request the publication of a letter, a counter-article. No, he writes to Gorbachev, he protests to the authorities.

[Lizzadri] How do you explain the fact that whereas almost all Soviet newspapers have increased their circulation, PRAVDA's has decreased to the extent that when OGONEK, for instance, had already finished its 1988 subscription campaign, PRAVDA was forced to extend its campaign because it had not reached its targets?

[Korotich] PRAVDA has indeed lost some of its subscribers. There are two reasons for this. The first is that many offices considered it an obligation and a duty for their body to subscribe to PRAVDA. The other is perhaps that it recently published "conservative" articles. PRAVDA took note of this and an examination is being made of how to modernize it. With regard to OGONEK, we have reached the figure of 1.77 million copies a week. It is read on the "black market" but we are still being denied an increase in our paper supply. This battle is still under way.

Agricultural

Kiev Crop Yields Increase Despite Chernobyl

LD141025 Moscow TASS in English 0959 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Kiev April 14 TASS—TASS correspondent Ivan Kirillov reports:

The Chernobyl accident has not inflicted an irreparable damage on Ukrainian agriculture. "The agricultural output even increased somewhat rather than dwindled in the two years after the disaster," says Aleksey Denisenko, deputy chairman of the state agri-industrial committee of the Ukraine. According to his data, grain crop yields rose from 26.4 in 1986 to 32.2 metric centners per hectare last year. Crop yields in Kiev Region where the nuclear power plant is located, grew from 29.3 to 38.5 metric centners per hectare.

Denisenko does not believe that such an increase was caused by mutations in plants provoked by radioactive irradiation. "Crop rises are attributed only to introduction of intensive technologies of cultivation, as well as to introduction of contract forms of labour organization," he noted. "At present the Ukraine cultivates 83 per cent of ploughland on the basis of team, family and other forms of contracts, which is provided for by the programme of perestroyka of the Soviet agricultural complex."

"All agricultural products in the area adjoining the Chernobyl zone are painstakingly monitored for the content of radioactive substances," Denisenko went on to say. "Only foodstuffs strictly checked by medics and radiobiologists are put on sale." On recommendations of scientists the Ukrainian agri-industrial committee changed specialization of some farms in several regions of the republic: Farms which cultivated earlier, for instance, vegetables, grow today grain crops and potatoes which do not accumulate radioactive decay products.

Variable Weather Affects Crop Development

PM131031 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Apr 88 p 1

[Agrometeorologist N. Ignatova report: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Mild weather is continuing to hold over the majority of the USSR's European territory, with a mean air temperature 2-5 degrees higher than the perennial average. This has led to an intensive thaw, as a result of which the snow has melted from the fields south of a line passing approximately through Vilnius, Pskov, Smolensk, Kaluga, Tambov, and Saratov. Elsewhere it is considerably reduced in depth.

Winter grain crops have begun to shoot again in the northern half of the Ukraine, Rostov Oblast, and in the south of Volgograd Oblast approximately 10 days earlier than the perennial norm. They continued growing in Moldavia, the southern oblasts of the Ukraine, and the North Caucasus largely owing to a sufficient supply of moisture. Standing water was recorded in fields of winter crops in a number of rayons in Kiev, Chernigov, and Sumy Oblasts. Perennial grasses have begun to shoot in the extreme south of Belorussia and in the Central Chernozem and Volga Regions. They are in a good or satisfactory condition after the winter. Cereal grasses and alfalfa shoots have sprouted to a height of 1-2 cm in the southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region and 6- 8 cm in Krasnodar Kray.

Bud swelling has been observed in the northern Ukraine and the south of the Central Chernozem Region on apples, pears, plums, and cherries 10-12 days ahead of the perennial norm. Blossoming has been observed in the south of Krasnodar Kray and the Transcaucasian republics on apricot and peach trees—this is close to the normal times.

It was considerably milder than normal in the arable regions of Western Siberia, Krasnoyarsk Kray, and the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan. Steady thaws have been observed almost everywhere. Winter grain crops and perennial grasses were in a state of dormancy under the snow cover.

Changeable weather has been observed in the Central Asian republics. Mild weather has given way to cold weather. Frosts in a number of rayons in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan caused partial damage to blossoming grape and mulberry buds and to the flowers and ovaries of individual varieties of apricots.

The drop in temperature was accompanied by precipitation, in some areas in the form of snow. The total precipitation exceeded the perennial mean by a factor of 1.5-3 in most rayons in Tajikstan, in the southwest half of Kirghizia, and also in a number of oblasts in Uzbekistan. The rains oversaturated the topsoil, which made agricultural work difficult. Then the weather turned mild again. Winter cereal crops and grasses have continued their growth.

Scientific

'Foton' Satellite Launched 14 April

LD150800 Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—The Soviet Union April 14 launched a satellite called Foton.

Orbited by a Soyuz booster for a 14-day mission, the satellite is carrying scientific equipment to continue space materials studies.

The flight's program provides for conducting experiments to obtain semi-conductor materials with improved properties and extra-pure biologically active preparations under microgravitation and for studying relevant processes.

After the program is fulfilled, the produced samples will be brought to earth and given over for analysis to research institutions.

The satellite was put in an orbit with the following parameters:

Initial period of revolution—90.5 minutes.

Maximum distance from earth (apogee)—397 kilometers.

Minimum distance (perigee)—225 kilometers.

Inclination—62.8 degrees.

The satellite's on-board equipment is functioning normally.

A coordinating-and-computer center is processing incoming information.

Khabirov on Space Cooperation With U.S.

LD121450 Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 12 TASS—"The shaped thaw in international relations as a result of the signing of the Treaty on Eliminating Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles had a salutary impact on the work of the legal subcommittee of the U.N. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space," said Boris Khabirov, head of a sector of the Department on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy and Space of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

He told a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists here today that in the opinion of the Soviet delegation the results of this year's legal subcommittee session could be viewed as positive: The sides' positions were brought closer on several issues and a considerable movement forward was achieved on some of them. It is also important to note that the discussion of the issues passed in a calm and businesslike atmosphere.

Specifically, following lengthy and complex talks, the subcommittee has got an agreement on a new item of its agenda. It deals with legal aspects related to the application of the principle which reads that space exploration should be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries with special account for the developing states' needs.

Responding to a question on the possible launching of joint Soviet-U.S. ventures in the field of space exploration, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman recalled that back in 1986 the Soviet Union stated its readiness to swap achievements in space and also proposed launching foreign, among them American, spacecraft by Soviet rocket boosters.

"Regrettably, the U.S. side, alluding to the so-called embargo on technology export to the USSR, hampers the efforts to foster mutually profitable cooperation in this field," said Boris Khabirov.

"The arguments that delivery of a spacecraft to the Soviet Union from the United States is supposedly tantamount to its export to the USSR, which is banned by the regulations of the Cocom (Coordinating Committee on Export Controls) does not hold any water: The Soviet Union stated on top level that it gives full guarantees of the spacecraft's inviolability. This means a 24-hour control on the part of the consumer who can accompany its spacecraft and be present at all operations related to its launch."

Malaysian Citizen To Become Cosmonaut

LD101007 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 10 Apr 88

[Text] Soviet-Malaysian cooperation is expanding. Our Southeast Asian correspondent Viktor Konnov reports:

[Konnov] Malaysia will have its own cosmonaut. The Soviet Union will train and prepare a Malaysian citizen for a launch into space. These headlines appeared in all local newspapers after the Malaysian Foreign Ministry announced the news.

Soviet-Malaysian relations have been successfully developing for over 20 years. The Soviet Union purchases from Malaysia traditional Malaysian goods such as rubber, tin, and palm oil. This helps Malaysia to steadily develop its manufacturing. Our country supplies Malaysia with electric power sets, metal cutters, chemical fertilizers, and raw materials for the textile industry. Undoubtedly, a Malaysian citizen taking part in a joint Soviet-Malaysian space flight will be a vivid symbol of expanding Soviet-Malaysian cooperation.

'Mir' Cosmonauts Undergo Cardiovascular Tests

LD150246 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] They report from Mission Control Center that today's work program of the crew of the Mir manned complex includes astrophysical and technological experiments. In particular, a series of photographs of separate sections of the starscape with ultraviolet light is being carried out.

According to the medical monitoring schedule, Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov are undergoing thorough cardiovascular tests.

Space Official Outlines Cosmonauts' Work Program

LD122020 Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Moscow April 12 TASS—TASS correspondent Aleksandr Romanov reports from the Mission Control Centre:

"Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, the crew of the orbital complex Mir who are on an endurance flight, are in an elevated mood today since they are celebrating together with the whole land the Cosmonautics Day. In the early morning they were congratulated by the morning shift of specialists of the Mission Control Centre, who wished them every success in implementing the research program. Asked the jocular question about their 'hobby', the cosmonauts almost at once exclaimed: 'The supernova, she is our darling'."

This is really so. Viktor Blagov, deputy mission director, said that out of the 330 sessions held by the crew over 114 days of the mission, 276 have been devoted to astrophysics, in particular, the supernova. Experts say that research and experiments on board are being conducted in seven scientific-technical areas. But the supernova is a scientific sensation and a certain preference given to it by the cosmonauts is understandable.

Blagov said that in perspective the station "Mir" will have another four special modules, which will necessitate a crew three or four times as large as now. This will in its turn necessitate a considerable increase in food supplies and some other cargoes delivered to the orbit and, consequently, a greater frequency of flights of the transport space ship "Progress" on the route the earth-orbit [as received]. This will also involve a considerable increase in the cost, which is already high, of manned flights.

Asked what was the best solution, Blagov expressed his personal viewpoint. "It is time to create in outer space special automated platforms", he said. "Outer space islands controlled from the earth. This was a dream of Academician Sergey Korolev, the creator of the first artificial earth satellite." Such "islands", as Viktor Blagov said, can both moor to the base station and "float" far from it. It will be possible to place in them equipment for experimental studies, and later—for industrial manufacture of extra-terrestrial products.

But then one cannot help asking, what the crews of the base stations will do? Their duty, Viktor Blagov notes, is to adjust space technology placed in the "islands", replace some instruments with the others if it is necessary to repair something and at last return the finished products to earth.

When our conversation was drawing to an end, the inhabitants of the "Mir" station Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov opened a communication session with the Mission Control Centre. We could hear their voices.

"We congratulate the earthmen on the Cosmonautics Day. And wish peace and happiness to all the people on earth."

Meeting Held on Celebration of Cosmonauts Day

LD122300 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 12 Apr 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today is Cosmonauts Day. At a festive session devoted to this holiday, scientists, designers, employees at enterprises and cosmodromes, specialists from the Cosmonauts Training Center and Mission Control Center, and pilot cosmonauts came to the Central Theater of the Soviet Army. In the presidium were Comrade Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Belousov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and heads of a number of ministries and departments.

The Soviet Union, the participants in the meeting noted, was not only a pioneer of the conquest of outer space but also the first to propose to other states that they work in orbiting the world only for peaceful purposes, and in our country today there is probably no single branch of the national economy where the achievements of cosmonautics are not used in one way or another.

Plans for 'Mir' Space Station Described

LD150140 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpts] This month we observe the 27th anniversary of man's first venture into outer space. During these years a great deal has been accomplished in manned spaceflight. A firm foundation has been laid for putting space at the service of mankind. [passage omitted]

More about this from our science correspondent, Boris Belitskiy:

[Belitskiy] [Passage omitted] The head of the Soviet Cosmonaut Training Center, Vladimir Shatalov, has told us that in the near future there are to be new missions to this orbital laboratory.

Shatalov says that at the end of the year, barring delays, it's hoped to add another module to the station. Still another module is to follow within a 6-month period after that. Next year should also see the docking of two more modules with the station. The modules are to arrive at the station without big intervals so as not to disturb the symmetry of the complex in space. This is important because a big space structure lacking in symmetry would consume more propellant for (?attitude) control.

All the modules for the complex are to be orbited by the Proton booster, that is the rocket that launched the Mir station itself into orbit; it's able to lift payloads of 20 tonnes into earth orbit. When all the modules have been added to the station, there will be a 100 tonne versatile research institute operating in earth orbit. One of the first modules to be added to the station is to be a lock for the more convenient exit of the cosmonauts into raw space. This will be a large compartment fitted with all the necessary equipment for what is termed extravehicular activity; that is, work by the crew outside their space station.

The equipment will include autonomous means of propulsion in space—a space motorbike. Such a vehicle can be used by a cosmonaut to travel freely in space so as to inspect the exterior of the station, repair satellites or perform rescue operations. It's planned next to send up another astrophysical observatory. That is to be followed by a materials-processing unit which will actually be a factory in space. It will be fitted with industrial installations for making high-purity alloys and crystals which cannot be produced on the ground because of the effect of gravity. Finally, a medical module will probably be added to the station for experiments aimed at establishing the effects of the weightless condition on the human body and the length of time that a human being can remain in space without damaging his health.

Research and production modules need not be attached to the Mir station all the time; they can also operate in autonomous flight. For example, in growing extra-pure crystals, it's undesirable for the crew to be aboard the same space vehicle, since even their walking about the complex can disturb this very delicate process. The crew will, therefore, charge the installations aboard the module with all the necessary materials and then release the module for autonomous flight, redocking with it after a predetermined time. Such are some of the plans of the Soviet space scientists and cosmonauts for the near future.

'Mir' Progress, Mars Exploration Plans Viewed

LD091202 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 8 Apr 88

[Excerpts] On Tuesday next week, it will be 27 years since man's first venture into space, the trailblazing flight by Yuriy Gagarin. In Vantage Point, Boris Belitskiy recalls the event and looks at the Soviet manned space program today and at its prospects:

[Belitskiy] [Passage omitted] At this moment, two Soviet cosmonauts are in their 4th month aboard an orbital space station significantly named Mir, the Russian word for peace. In an astrophysical observatory attached to their station, they are conducting observations impossible to the ground because of the obscuring effect of the earth's atmosphere. Another module, shortly to be added to the station, will provide new facilities for earth studies from space, adding to our knowledge of geology and tectonics, the oceans and the atmosphere, and, perhaps most important of all, the human environment and how to protect it. The orbital station also carries a pilot plant for materials processing in the conditions of microgravity. This is a prototype of future factories in space, which are full of promise for humanity.

Then, too, the steadily growing duration of Soviet manned flights and the biomedical research they involve are paving the way to manned flights to the planets. Indeed, a multistage program for the exploration of Mars, culminating in a manned flight to that planet, is being drawn up in the Soviet Union, to begin in July this year with the launching of two probes to explore that planet and its satellite Phobos. Discussions have also begun with American scientists on cooperation in such a fascinating program, which would be in keeping with the space cooperation treaty they signed last April. [passage omitted]

In another new development, it has been announced a Soviet reusable spacecraft of the shuttle type will shortly be launched on its maiden flight. It will be carried into orbit by the world's most powerful booster rocket, Energiya, test launched last May. [passage omitted]

New Generation Ship To Aid Space Research

LD122307 Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Leningrad April 12 TASS—A research vessel of the new generation, "Akademik Nikolay Pilyugin" designed on the order of the USSR Academy of Sciences will be useful in conducting space research. The ceremony of laying the ship's keel was held in Leningrad today.

"Such vessels are meant for communication with manned spacecraft and orbital stations", a TASS correspondent was told by General Georgiy Beregovoy, one of the supervisors of Soviet cosmonauts' training. "The vessel will be equipped with an onboard computer centre, powerful receiving and transmitting equipment and highly sensitive antennae".

Beregovoy said that the USSR, implementing long-term space programmes attaches much importance to the creation of a wide network of ocean-going means to be used as centres for monitoring flights. They make it possible to monitor most effectively the movement of manned and automatic systems (almost half of their orbits around the earth is over water surface). The increase of the number of research vessels for tracking spacecraft is connected also with the implementation of international space programmes, specifically Phobos Project which envisages the studies of Mars, of its satellite Phobos, and of the Sun with the use of automatic space stations.

AN-124 'Ruslan' Lands on Arctic Snow Runway

LD121212 Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 12 Apr 88

[Text] Fran Josef Land April 12 TASS—Strong snow charges and wind of gale force have not prevented the giant Soviet plane "Ruslan" from successfully completing new flight tests in the Arctic. For the first time ever in the history of aviation the world's biggest transport plane "AN-124" touched down not on a concrete runway of an airport, but on a compacted snow runway of Franz Josef Land in Graham Bell Island. The super-heavy duty plane has demonstrated its ability to land even on poorly equipped snow-clad patches of land and carry to the areas of the Arctic Ocean difficult to access as much cargoes as only sea-going vessels can carry.

It is apt to recall some records set by "Ruslan." On July 26, 1985, AN-124 lifted to a height of 10,500 metres 171 tons 219 kg of commercial cargoes, which is by 50 per cent up on the record of the American super-heavy duty plane C-5A "Galaxy." A year later "Ruslan" made a non-stop flight across the Atlantic from Kiev to Vancouver.

And now a trip to the Arctic was made. First an AN-12 plane flew for a search for a convenient runway for "Ruslan." The advent of spring was already felt in Severnaya Zemlya and Spitsbergen and the snow covered airfields were melting, leaving no chance for a successful landing of the air giant. Yet a suitable place for landing was found in Graham Bell. Powerful bulldozers lengthened the runway to 2,500 m. They had to work for twenty-four hours. And after returning in Murmansk, we took our seats in "Ruslan". V. Tersky, the crew commander, decided to fly to Graham Bell.

By touching down on the snow clad airfield of Franz Josef Land, said Yuriy Podkaminskiy, researcher of the State Research Institute of Civil Aviation, "Ruslan" proved that it was possible to make regular flights to the Arctic to supply cargoes to polar stations even in places most difficult of access.

Ukrainian Academy of Sciences Elects Presidium

AU051340 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 1 Apr 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "General Meeting of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences"]

[Text] The general meeting of the republic's Academy of Sciences ended on 31 March. A new Presidium of the Academy was elected.

B.Ye. Paton, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, was reelected as president of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences. V.P. Kukhar, member of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; I.I. Lukinov and V.I. Skok, members of the USSR Academy of Sciences; V.V. Skopenko, member of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; and V.I. Trefilov, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, were elected vice presidents of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences. B.S. Stogniy, corresponding member of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences, was elected learned secretary of the Presidium of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences.

S.A. Andronati, V.F. Zelenskiy, V.V. Pilipenko, Ya.S. Podstrigach, V.V. Smirnov, and N.G. Chumachenko, members of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences and chairmen of the six regional scientific centers of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences, were elected Presidium members.

The following academician secretaries were approved for the branches of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences: Yu.A. Mitropolskiy and V.S. Mikhalevich, members of the USSR Academy of Sciences; V.T. Troshchenko and V.G. Baryakhtar, members of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; V.I. Starostenko, corresponding member of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; I.K. Pokhodnya, A.K. Shidlovskiy, V.D. Pokhodenko, G.Kh. Matsuka, A.M. Grodzinskiy, and Yu.N. Pakhomov, members of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; I.F. Kuras, corresponding member of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; and V.M. Rusanovskiy, member of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences.

Briefs

Satellite Photos for Sale

The director general of the Soviet research center called Priroda—or nature—Yuriy Kiyenko, has said the USSR offers on the international market state-of-the-art space-relayed information about the earth and its resources. The center deals with tapping natural resources, studying the ecological situation, and also conducts engineering research based on photographs taken by satellites in the Cosmos series. The quality of those photographs, Yuriy Kiyenko said, is six times better than those supplied by the American Landsat satellites. Soviet space information is being bought on a commerical footing by companies in the United States, Federal Germany, Canada, Australia, and many other nations. [Text] [*LD150219 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Apr 88*]